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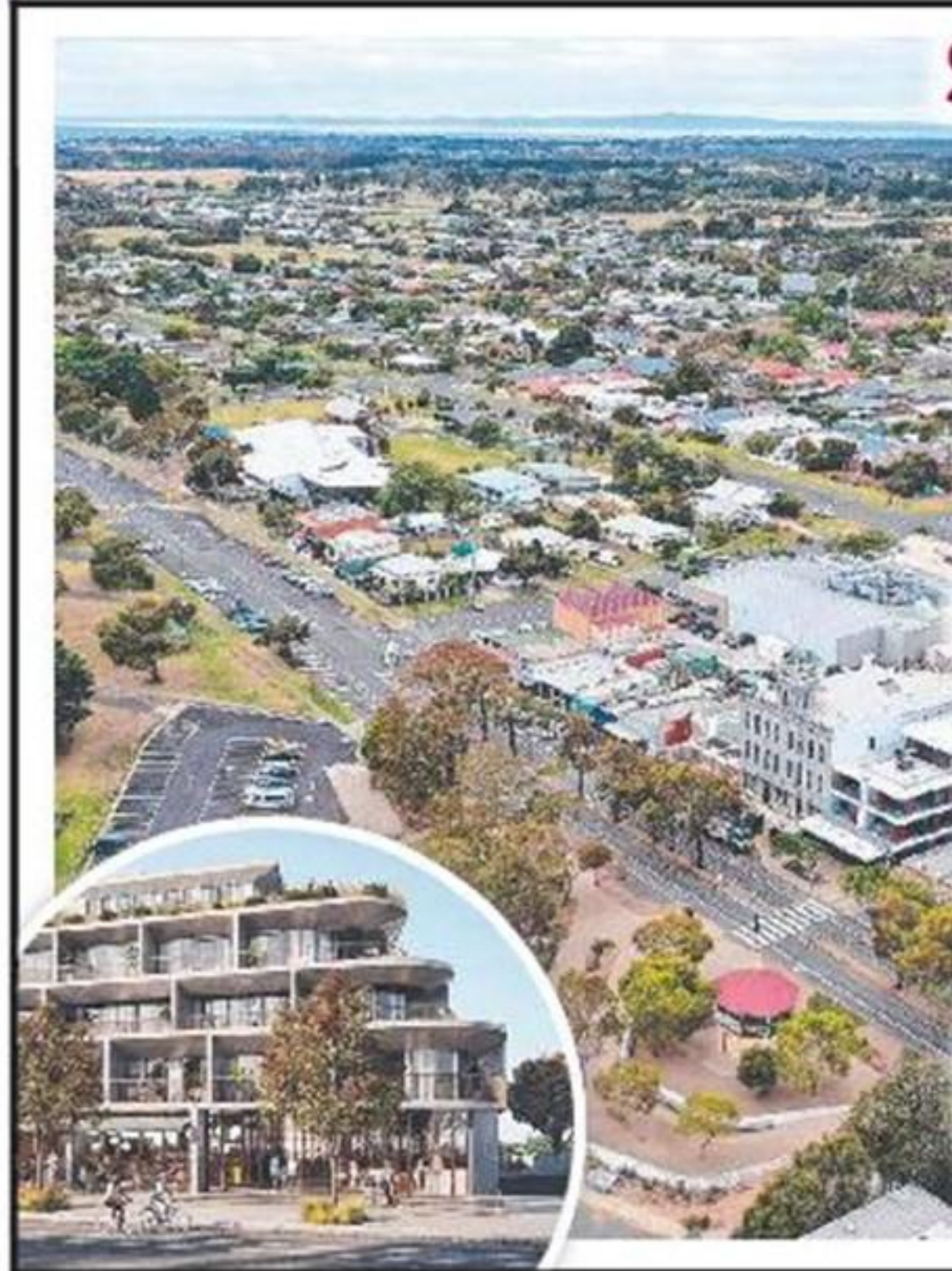
PORT PROTEST OVER PAY
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Feedback on our Square

Geelong residents are being urged to share their vision for the troubled Market Square precinct, as city leaders desperately try to reinvigorate the area.

The City of Greater Geelong's engagement team will be in the CBD to take in-person feedback on its draft masterplan for the city block bordered by Malop, Yarra, Ryrie and Moorabool streets.

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SPECIAL REPORT: Inside Bellarine & Surf Coast's shifting seascape

Alexander Blain

It may be a picturesque seaside hamlet, but Portarlington is on the front line of a changing seascape stretching from the Bellarine to the Surf Coast.

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In market for a revival plan

Olivia Shying

Council wants feedback on troubled precinct

Geelong residents are being urged to share their vision for the troubled Market Square precinct, as city leaders desperately try to reinvigorate the area.

The City of Greater Geelong's engagement team will be in the CBD to take in-person feedback on its draft masterplan for the city block bordered by Malop, Yarra, Ryrie and Moorabool streets.

It comes after new chief executive officer Ali Wastie admitted there were limits on what the council could do about the privately owned shopping centre, but said it could facilitate ideas and "put pressure on the owners to do something".

She said the council was communicating with the Singapore-based owners "through their intermediaries". "We can't force the developers to sell, we can't force the developers to reduce their rents. And we can't force people to shop there," she said.

Councillors endorsed the Market Square masterplan in early December.

The plan outlines three options for the precinct, covers the entire area bordered by Ryrie, Yarra, Moorabool and Malop Streets, not just Market Square Shopping Centre.

It proposes a pedestrian eat-street with outdoor dining that extends Union St through the



An artist's impression of Market Square Quarter.

site, an outdoor market and two new plazas designed in collaboration with Wadawurrung traditional owners.

The council said the vision was informed by engagement

with community members who called for more dining opportunities, a fresh food market or a supermarket, more public art, live music and events, diverse shopping op-

portunities and the creation of streetfront shopping.

The final plan will require partnerships between land-owners, developers, local and state government, Wadawurrung traditional owners and the broader Geelong community to be fully realised.

Mayor Trent Sullivan encouraged community members to drop in and have a say on how the Market Square Quarter could be reinvigorated.

"With people visiting the waterfront, dining outlets and our cultural venues, we'd love for residents and visitors to stop by our engagement and share their insights on how this



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significant location can be re-shaped," he said.

"There is so much potential to unlock in this city block that will contribute to a more cohesive, lively and inclusive space."

The council engagement team will take in-person feedback from 2-4pm on January 9 and noon-2pm on February 6.

Community members can drop in at 111-113 Little Malop St, Geelong, to read about the vision, ask questions or go to yoursay.geelongaustralia.com.au/MSM until February 11.

Growing the love of gardening

Michaela Meade

Gardening enthusiasts are invited to visit two "magical" local gardens on display as part of the annual Open Gardens Victoria event.

On January 13 and 14, gardens across the state will be open to the public, including Anglesea's Sunnymead and Jamboree gardens.

Sunnymead owner and creative director of Ocean Road Landscaping Peter Shaw said the two-day event was an exciting opportunity for people across the state to see beautiful gardens and get inspiration for their own homes.

He said at Maria Cook's property at Point Roadknight, people would be able to take "lots of little ideas" from across the almost 2000sq m block.

"That one's a good example of how to create a simple, coastal garden that's pretty low maintenance,"



Mr Shaw said. "(And Sunnymead) is a bit of a whimsical place."

"It's got a nice rolling lawn, little paths. It's a bit magical." Mr Shaw said his top tips

for designing your own garden included starting your design on paper, getting it built properly with professional consultation, using "super tough" native

plants, and proper garden care.

Sunnymead and Jamboree will be open on January 13 and 14. There will be a twilight

garden event on January 13 at Sunnymead.

For more information and to buy tickets, visit opengardensvictoria.org.au/coming-open-gardens.

Don't click! Parcel delivery texts to stop in bid to beat scams

Jared Lynch

E-commerce companies are set to phase out text messages alerting people of when parcels are likely to be delivered this year in an attempt to close a common entry point for cyber criminals.

Richard Thame, chief executive of Singapore Post-owned Couriers Please, expects more companies to switch to Amazon-style app notifications.

"It's very rare for consumers in advanced overseas economies to get a tracking link via SMS," Mr Thame said.

"Clickable links on mobile devices will die off over the next year. Its life has probably been prolonged here in Australia."

"And I think there's a whole new generation of consumers who are using social platforms, so I think the next stage is that more seamless integration

with the various other social platforms as well."

SMiShing, a variant of phishing, is a common tactic cyber criminals use, involving sending simple text messages with an urgent "call to action", such as asking where they would like a parcel delivered or to unlock and verify an account.

Once a fraudulent link is clicked, hackers can gain access to personal information,

and mobile phones, banking apps and email inboxes, potentially fleecing people of their life savings.

In the first 10 months of last year, Australians reported more than 11,000 parcel delivery scams to Scamwatch, with more than \$720,000 lost.

It is understood many more scams are unreported out of embarrassment.

People are at greatest risk of falling victim to the scams dur-

ing peak delivery periods such as Christmas, when they might not scrutinise SMS alerts as closely.

Scammers are also more sophisticated at impersonating legitimate delivery providers, such as Australia Post, making it harder for customers to tell what is genuine.

Fake invoicing is a common type of scam that has hit car dealers, real estate agents and customers.

Customers are advised to verify bank account details when a payment is requested in writing via email to mitigate the risk of such attacks.

The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission offers similar advice in regard to SMS parcel delivery scams.

"Never click on links in text messages or emails, even if you're expecting a delivery," ACCC deputy chair Catriona Lowe said.

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Alison Wynd took this photo of a dog keen to see the Geelong waterfront while driving on Brougham St.

Albo to skip cash carrots

Jessica Wang

While saying cost-of-living support remained the government's No. 1 priority, Prime Minister Anthony Albanese has declared Australians should not expect cash handouts and sweeteners to relieve the pressure on households.

Mr Albanese said he had asked the Treasury and Department of Finance to devise ideas that could be announced in the May federal budget, however, cash splashes and spending would be curtailed to avoid inflation.

"We asked them to give consideration to what are the measures that can take pressure off families on cost of living without putting pressure on inflation. That's the key issue," he said.

"If you were just to distribute additional cash to people, you potentially make inflation worse and therefore don't help to solve the problem."

He gave the example of the government's Energy Price Relief Plan, developed with state and territory governments to introduce price limits on gas and coal.

The NSW and Queensland governments have set a \$125-a-tonne price threshold on coal used for electricity generation.

A 12-month emergency cap

on gas prices has also been set at \$12 a gigajoule for east-coast producers.

"Instead of giving cheques to people, it reduces their bills substantially and we worked that through with Treasury and Finance and it made a substantial difference in a reduction in wholesale prices," Mr Albanese said.

In an effort to soften inflation to a target range of 2-3 per cent, the Reserve Bank of Australia has implemented 13 rate rises since May 2022, denting household budgets.

Consumer Price Index figures from September revealed year-on-year household inflation was down to 5.4 per cent from a high of 7.8 per cent in December 2022.

Mr Albanese conceded Aussies were under pressure caused by international events such as pandemic-related supply chain issues and the "illegal Russian invasion of Ukraine".

He said the government would attempt to alleviate the crisis through initiatives such as delivering 300,000 fee-free TAFE courses and expanding the Home Guarantee Scheme.

The commonwealth would also work with states and territories to strengthen Medicare and support primary health-care operators such as GPs and urgent care clinics.

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\$5.5bn land tax boost to Vic coffers

Mitch Clarke

A deeply unpopular land tax, which up to 380,000 Victorians will begin paying for the first time this year, is expected to claw back almost \$1bn more than initially stated.

New figures from the Parliamentary Budget Office (PBO) reveal the Allan government's expanded land tax scheme is expected to rake in \$5.5bn over the forward estimates.

But the government's own modelling in the 2023-24 budget papers had predicted the tax – known as the Covid debt levy – would only deliver \$4.7bn in that period until 2027.

According to the PBO figures, the 380,000 newly liable properties are each expected to cough up \$878 on average a year.

More people will begin paying the tax from this week after the government slashed the tax-free threshold of \$300,000 to just \$50,000.

The fixed charge levied on land tax bills for property owners will start at \$500 for a parcel of land worth \$50,000-\$100,000.

Owners of land worth more than \$100,000 face a \$975 fixed charge, and an extra payment for those with property values higher than \$300,000.

The government has sprung it as a necessary measure to recoup money and pay down the state's Covid debt.

But despite the new tax hike, Victoria's financial woes continue to worsen, with state debt set to blow out to a staggering \$178bn by 2027.

Last month's budget update revealed the dire figure had blown out by another \$6.4bn, with Victorians now slugged \$24m a day in interest payments alone on the debt.

Opposition leader John Pesutto said it was "inevitable" Victorians would be hit with more taxes, given multibillion-dollar blowouts on major projects.

A government spokesman said: "The Covid debt levy is temporary, targeted, and above all, responsible."

"It will help to pay off the Covid emergency credit card we used to save lives and protect family budgets while we continue to invest in jobs and the projects that build our state."



GeelongPort workers rally during their 24-hour stoppage. Pictures: Alan Barber

Strike at Port to keep four-day working week



A vessel caught up in the GeelongPort strike action.

Michaela Meade

GeelongPort workers have stopped work for 24 hours amid an ongoing enterprise agreement (EA) dispute, with employees asking for better pay rises and more apprenticeship opportunities.

Employees at GeelongPort, including members of the Maritime Union of Australia and Electrical Trades Union, started their work stoppage from 11am on January 2 at the North Geelong site.

The unions have been in EA negotiations with GeelongPort since July last year.

MUA Victoria branch deputy secretary David Ball said GeelongPort needed to show appreciation for its staff and the work they did.

Mr Ball said the employer had to realise how serious workers were about their de-

mands. "We managed to stop a wood chip vessel ... which will have an impact on them," he said.

"Also, they haven't been able to hire out some of their equipment to some other companies."

"We're serious about getting a good agreement, and we'll continue to fight going forward."

Mr Ball said key elements workers wanted in their new EA included "decent" pay rises, with the current offer below Consumer Price Index wage increases.

He said other demands included more apprentice employment opportunities, establishing a safety committee involving all nine businesses across the port and maintaining a four-day work week.

He said GeelongPort proposed a nine-day fortnight in-

stead, which would be a "massive change".

A GeelongPort spokeswoman said the priority during the stoppage action period was to manage operations.

"GeelongPort will continue to negotiate with our EA employees and the MUA/ETU to achieve a mutually acceptable outcome," the spokeswoman said.

"As we are in ongoing negotiations, we are unable to provide any further details at this time."

Mr Ball said the management and owners of the port must acknowledge their hard-working, loyal workforce.

"We're all in it together, and there's good solidarity amongst all the workers," he said.

Mr Ball said there were further protected actions scheduled for January 16.

Toad find sparks plea

Victorians are being urged to report suspected exotic pest animal sightings after the discovery of an Asian black-spined toad on Boxing Day in Melbourne.

Agriculture Victoria Biosecurity Manager Adam Kays said a resident noticed the toad during a walk along the Djerring Trail near Huntingdale train station.

"The resident collected the toad in a cup and took it

home, then reported the discovery via our hotline as a suspected cane toad," he said.

"We have since confirmed the species as an Asian black-spined toad."

The toad was in poor condition when found and has since died.

It is the 18th Asian black-spined toad discovery reported to Agriculture Victoria since 1999.

Monster payday for our Mary's prince, 18

Adella Beaini



Prince Christian, Queen Margrethe and Prince Frederik.

Crown Princess Mary's eldest son Christian, next in line to the Danish throne, is set to receive a royal allowance running into millions of dollars after his grandmother's abdication.

Citing ill health, Queen Margrethe announced on New Year's Eve that she would step aside, allowing Crown Prince Frederik and his Aussie-born

wife Mary to be the new King and Queen from January 14.

The move means Frederik and Mary's son Prince Christian is tipped to finally receive a huge royal salary drawn from Denmark's state budget.

Christian was entitled to the allowance when he turned 18 last October, but the royal house said he wouldn't take the money until completing his education or if the line of succession changed, Sky News re-

ports. It is expected Christian will pocket millions of Danish kroner tax-free each year.

Queen Margrethe, currently receives about \$21m annually to support living and staff costs.

Christian is in his last year of school at Ordrup Gymnasium, a public school in Copenhagen.

The changes are not expected to affect Christian's siblings, Princess Isabella, 16, and twins Prince Vincent and Princess Josephine, 12.

Chinese car maker overtakes Tesla

Rebecca Elliott

Chinese automaker BYD for the first time topped Tesla as the world's largest seller of electric vehicles on a quarterly basis, a sign of China's emerging strength in the global market for battery-powered cars.

BYD reported selling more than 526,000 fully electric vehicles in the fourth quarter of 2023, compared with Tesla's sales of nearly 485,000.

Tesla remained ahead of BYD for the full year though.

Elon Musk's electric-car maker said it delivered about 1.8 million EVs worldwide in 2023, meeting its full-year guidance and slightly beating Wall Street's expectations.

The figure was 38 per cent higher than the previous year, showing Tesla's growth rate slowed slightly as the company entered an increasingly competitive chapter defined by more gradual expansion and slimmer profit margins.

By comparison, the Warren Buffett-backed BYD sold nearly 1.6 million battery-powered vehicles last year, up more than 70 per cent over 2022.

Overall sales of more than three million new-energy vehicles in 2023 were up 62 per cent from a year earlier.

Though nearly 90 per cent of BYD's sales still came from China in December, its exports have been growing fast – overseas sales in the second half of 2023 more than tripled from a year earlier.

Tesla's results come as concerns are growing in the US about the level of demand for the company's cars – and electric vehicles more broadly – in the year ahead.

The electric-car market has shown signs of cooling after a period of heady growth that drove robust profit margins for Tesla.

In the US, some car makers are finding fewer people are ready to go electric than they expected, as anxieties about finding enough places to publicly charge persist and higher interest rates make cars more difficult to afford.

Tesla's share of China's electric-vehicle market has held relatively steady, ticking up to nearly 12 per cent in the first 11 months of 2023, from almost 11 per cent the year before.

Booming region attracts developer dollars, but

Balancing act in visions for coast

Alexander Blain

It may be a picturesque seaside hamlet, but Portarlington is on the front line of a changing seascape stretching from the Bellarine to the Surf Coast.

The town has emerged as a microcosm of a greater trend, as the Bellarine grows increasingly popular and interest from developers rises.

Development along our region's coastlines has become equally as contentious as the buildings shaping Geelong.

More than \$200m of developments are either awaiting approval or have been greenlit by planning authorities.

The Bellarine Distinctive Areas and Landscapes (DAL) became law in August, setting town boundaries in stone and laying out rules on how development in the Bellarine can go ahead.

In October 2022, the Surf Coast's own DAL was implemented.

Batman Management Group boss Bill Votsaris said development in the region was "complex", with a need to balance factors including "growth, tourism requirements and community expectations".

"I believe in not sprawling ... but at the same time, we have to be viable as a community, and sensitive to the fact that maybe more people want to live there," Mr Votsaris said.

Portarlington's population grew from 3619 residents to 4436 between the 2016 and 2021 censuses.

While more development is in the pipeline, developers have had to fight for some projects.

In December, controversial plans for a chocolaterie on the outskirts of Portarlington were narrowly voted down by Geelong council's planning committee, prompting Deputy Mayor Anthony Aitken to lash out at his colleagues for not



The planned hotel and wellness centre at 30-34 Geelong Rd, Portarlington. Picture: McIlwaine Partners



Early works on the corner of Surf Coast Hwy and Grossmans Rd, Torquay. Picture: Alan Barber

being "open-minded". The project will most likely head to the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT).

In September, VCAT knocked back plans for a \$7.5m, multistorey development at 49 Newcombe St, Portarlington.

The tribunal sided with objectors and the City of Greater Geelong in turning down the proposal, finding its size overly large and "out of character with the township".

However, \$3.5m plans to develop an empty block just

500m away have not faced the same opposition.

It is understood plans for the 1 Newcombe St site have recently been relisted with the council after a permit trigger was missed in the original description.

The plans are open for public comment until January 10.

One project that has received both support and objection is Batman Management Group's Drooping Sheoak, a five-storey, 72-room hotel proposed for 30-34 Geelong Rd, Portarlington.

It has received 22 objections and 21 letters of support, according to correspondence seen by the Geelong Advertiser.

Supporters, including the local visitor centre, say the proposal is sorely needed, a "fabulous plan" and "just what Portarlington needs".

"Portarlington has a shortage of accommodation and this project will meet that need," one supporter said, adding it was "vital".

However, objectors argue the building is "terrifying" and

out of character, a "gross over-development" that will negatively impact traffic.

"I strongly believe this building will look and be a horror story to our town," one objector wrote.

The overall population of the Bellarine and Surf Coast has ballooned in recent years.

Data collected by KPMG found the Surf Coast-Bellarine area grew by 13,100 residents between 2019 and 2022.

According to the 2016 census, the region had a population of almost 72,000 people, which grew by around 30 per cent to 93,417 by 2021.

The number of families in the region grew from around 19,000 to more than 26,000, and the median age has dropped slightly.

Here are some of the biggest projects that could shape our coast in years to come:

OCEANGROVE

57-59 The Parade

VCAT gave this controversial \$10m development the green light in June, after setting aside City Hall's decision. The development will see a three-storey building with 16 apartments, 29 basement car spaces and bike storage built at the site.

123 The Parade

In January 2022, developers unveiled a \$4.4m plan to knock down an existing two-storey home on an 815sq m block of land on The Parade, and replace it with a new apartment building.

At least one of the apartments, created by developers UXD Group, is now listed as being for sale by O'Brien Real Estate for between \$925,000 and \$975,000.

PORTARLINGTON

30-34 Geelong Rd

A \$30m five-storey, 72 room hotel proposed for Portarlington that could be the answer to



David Warner at the SCG with his daughters. Picture Getty

Cap snatch is just not cricket, says Albo

Jordan McCarthy and Madeleine Acherza

David Warner donned a baggy green cap as he walked in to the SCG for his final Test on Wednesday – it just wasn't one from his missing personal collection.

The opener is still waiting for news of two iconic Aussie cricket caps lost in transit in the lead-up to the Sydney Test.

Warner entered the arena with daughters Ivy, Indi and

Isla as he celebrated his final appearance for the Australian Test team.

He wore what looked like a new baggy green, not a well-worn favourite.

Prime Minister Anthony Albanese has joined calls for the immediate return of a backpack containing the prized baggy green caps.

"I do hope if it hasn't happened already, whoever knows anything about the missing hat

(returns it soon)," he said on Wednesday. "Dave Warner has represented Australia on more than 100 occasions, the baggy green hat belongs to him and it should be returned."

Mr Albanese sent a text message to Sunrise reporter Liam Tapper that he read live on air.

"A missing baggy green? Well, that's just not cricket!" Mr Albanese's text read.

"Davey's earned the right to

wear his one final time. If you can help, let's make it happen."

Warner's father Howard took to radio on SEN before the game, ripping into the culprit.

"I haven't heard anything this morning. His video went viral I know that much – everyone in Australia knows about the baggy green," he said.

"Whatever scumbag has taken it is going to have to lay it off very shortly."

TEST REPORT: SPORT

some residents fear 'terrifying' scale of projects

ONLINE



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MORE ABOUT
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DEVELOPMENTS

An artist impression of the proposed mixed-use development at 5-7 Brown St, Portarlington.



Power cut chaos after wild storms

Fergus Ellis

More than 10,000 Victorians were left without power after wild storms ripped through the state late on Tuesday, with fears that number could grow as more wild weather swept through on Wednesday.

Strong winds and a heavy downpour on Tuesday afternoon caused flash flooding and wreaked havoc at homes in Melbourne and regional areas.

Flood warnings were enacted for the Loddon and Avoca rivers, affecting areas close to Wedderburn and Boort in the north-west of the state, after a 99mm overnight deluge to Wednesday morning.

About 7700 AusNet customers in the east of Victoria reported power outages, while CitiPower recorded a further 2543 customers were without power in regions west of Melbourne on Wednesday.

The weather bureau issued further warnings for severe thunderstorms for large parts of Victoria on Wednesday afternoon, forecasting damaging winds and hail.

Hail stones ravaged homes in Bendigo on Tuesday, with residents in Bacchus Marsh reporting flooded roads and parklands.

Residents around Lake Eildon, in Victoria's east were also forced to watch on as winds battered their homes, causing trees to fall and damage to properties.

Motorists were again urged to avoid driving through flooding, with police saying a man and his dog had been rescued from floodwaters in Wedderburn.

The 60-year-old local resident was driving along Tantalus St when he and his dog were swept away.

Emergency services found the pair on the roof of the man's Ford Territory waiting to be rescued.

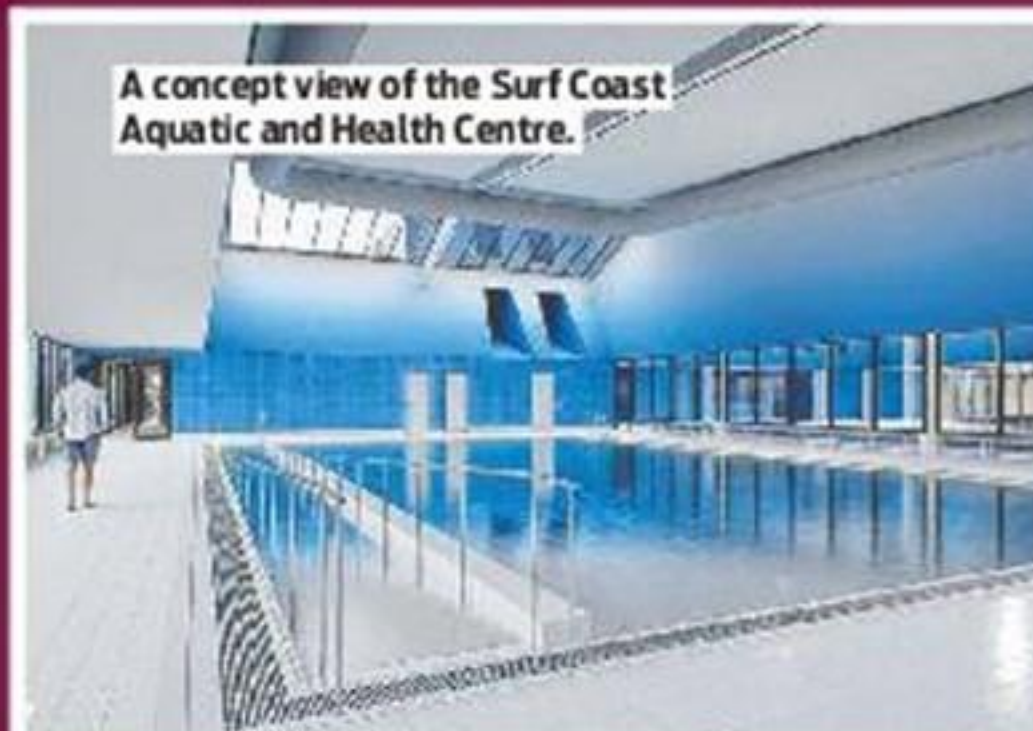
Police, Country Fire Authority and State Emergency Service personnel used a rope to pull the duo out of the rapidly rising water.

The man's car is now fully submerged near Nardoo Creek.

Hot and humid conditions are likely to dominate the rest of the month, as temperatures are forecast to sit 2C-3C higher than the January average.



The proposed homes at 1 Newcombe St, Portarlington.



A concept view of the Surf Coast Aquatic and Health Centre.

the area's "drastic shortage" of quality accommodation.

Adjacent to Portarlington Recreational Reserve and overlooking Port Phillip and Corio bays, the five-storey hotel would include a rooftop restaurant and 72 accommodation rooms.

Plans for the project outline a maximum building height of 22.56m.

A "wellness centre" would provide packaged retreats, while six ground-floor retail spaces would range from 70sq m-204sq m.

5-7 Brown St

Just 200m from the failed 49 Newcombe St development proposal, this project would include six retail outlets and 32 apartments – 21 two-bedroom apartments and 11 three-bedroom apartments, ranging from 71sq m-137sq m.

1 Newcombe St

This block of vacant land on Portarlington's main street would be carved up, under \$3.5m plans to build five units – two double storey and three triple storey.

The plans are the latest in a decade-long quest to develop the land, with Geelong's City Hall granting a permit to develop a three storey building in 2012.

The land changed hands in 2021, and a request to extend the original permit in 2022 was denied.

20-34 Newcombe St and 25-27 Fenwick St

Under this project, seven shops and 59 apartments are set to be built across four blocks, an area of 4700sq m,

after City Hall gave the development the green light in April.

During a public submission process about the development, Geelong council received 44 letters of support and 29 objections.

TORQUAY Cypress Lane

The fate of this controversial \$50m development hangs in the balance, after Surf Coast Shire council voted not to sell a portion of public land to developers, after the shire had al-

ready granted a planning permit for the site.

Under the proposed plan, developers would build a retirement village with 196 independent living units, a club house, swimming pool, gym, sauna, library and salon.

Surf Coast Aquatic and Health Centre

The \$46m Surf Coast Aquatic and Health Centre will soon move forward with the tender process.

Surf Coast Shire council voted in August to endorse detailed designs for the Torquay North centre, which will include a 25m indoor pool, 200sq m indoor program pool, gym, allied health suites and program spaces.

Cnr Surf Coast Hwy and Grossmans Rd

Work is underway at this 26ha site, which is set to become an \$80m hub featuring a childcare centre, medical centre, play centre and a cinema, constructed by Melbourne-based company Luzzi.

One of the main goals of the development is to help boost tourism to the area.



Robert Williams, skipper of Sylph VI, with shipmate Oli. Picture: Genevieve Holding

Maritime moggy's purr-fect finale

Genevieve Holding

Gift bags and hugs were exchanged at Hobart's Franklin Wharf as the final yacht in the 2023 Sydney to Hobart race Sylph VI and its crew docked on Wednesday.

But gifts weren't for the crew.

Yacht owner Robert Williams' cat Oli has taken the Australian and international public by storm as the first cat to race in the Sydney to Hobart, gaining

the sea-legged feline a horde of fans waiting at the Hobart waterfront.

The 10-year-old cat took the 628-nautical mile journey like a champ, according to Mr Williams, despite rough sailing across the Bass Strait with the crew and co-skipper Chris Warren.

Despite finishing after the target of New Year's Day, Mr Williams said the result of seven days and 19 hours was good for one of the oldest boats in the race fleet.

"Finishing a Sydney to Hobart, even if you finish last, is an incredible feeling," Mr Williams said.

He and Mr Warren were shocked by the fanfare for maritime moggy Oli.

"The crowds singing Oli a song on the finish line was really special," he said.

"We had heard a few things, but had little connectivity offshore. We know that he has had a lot of publicity though."

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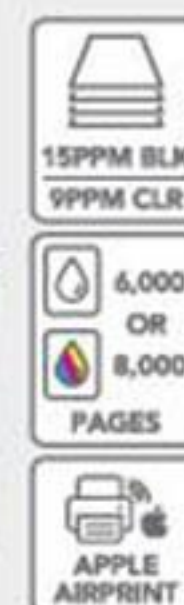
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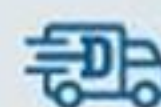
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Twitter firm at risk over bill claim

Ben Butler

A key Twitter company in Singapore may be shut down by a court for failing to pay about \$76,200 in Australian internet bills after Elon Musk took control.

Aussie ISP Vocus claims to be owed the money for wholesale internet transit services it provided to Twitter Asia Pacific Pte Ltd, which is registered in Singapore, since September 2022.

Mr Musk took over Twitter in October 2022 and Vocus claims Twitter Asia Pacific stopped paying its bills the same month.

Before Mr Musk took over Twitter and renamed it X, Twitter Asia Pacific sold ads on the social media network throughout the region, including in Australia.

It is unclear what purpose the company now serves within the X group, and early last year it was reported that workers at the Singapore office were temporarily shut out after Twitter failed to pay the rent on time.

Plans to expand the Singapore office were also canned after Mr Musk took control of the company.

In documents filed with the Victorian Supreme Court, Vocus says it served a statutory demand for the \$76,200 it claims to be owed at Twitter Asia Pacific's registered address in Melbourne on November 16, but the company still didn't pay up.

On December 21, Vocus asked the court to declare Twitter Asia Pacific insolvent and wind it up.

Australian law allows courts to declare overseas companies insolvent and order them to be wound up as long as they are first given 21 days to pay their bills by being served with a statutory demand at their registered office.

Court documents show Vocus billed Twitter Asia Pacific US\$8000 (about \$11,000) a month for IP transit from the start of September 2022 to the end of May last year, plus US\$533 (\$787) for two days in June last year for a total of US\$48,533.

Vocus is one of Australia's three biggest ISPs and owns a high-speed undersea cable linking Perth to Singapore.

Sex scams target kids

Summer holiday blackmail threats for online images

Jon Kaila

Thousands of Victorian children are being preyed on every day by international scammers seeking sexual images from teenagers so they can blackmail them.

A specialist police squad says the extorters are even using artificial intelligence (AI) to doctor innocent photos with victims' faces on pornographic images.

That means children who have not even sent sexualised pictures are being coerced into handing over cash amid threats fake images will be leaked online and sent to family and friends.

The Joint Anti Child Exploitation Team (JACET) – involving Victoria Police and Australian Federal Police – is warning more children are set to be targeted in the "sextortion" racket over the summer holidays.

"The offenders are not working harder during the holiday breaks, the kids are just more accessible and they don't have school to occupy their time," Leading Senior Constable Ben Rutherford said.

It was common for each offender to seek to extort money out of hundreds, if not thousands, of victims at any one time, police said.

"Since Covid forced more and more people online we've seen a real spike in offending," Detective Acting Senior Sergeant Warren Hutchison said.

Police said sextortion victims were overwhelmingly teenage boys, mainly targeted by offshore offenders, who made demands for money or gift cards worth up to thousands of dollars.

"A young boy will be friended by someone who he believes to be a young female, there will be an exchange of explicit images between the parties and then any images that are sent by the child victim are then used to blackmail them into providing money or

purchasing gift cards," senior intelligence analyst Lauren Ann Szostak said.

Sergeant Hutchinson said: "Boys, at this age, are predominantly interested sexually – they're very engaged and interested in pursuing a sexual kind of element."

"And if they have who they perceive as a female showing an interest in them, it breaks down this barrier and just makes them so vulnerable, so quickly."

"Offenders are efficient and proficient and have a very clear spiel and methodology around what they're trying to achieve."

"At first (victims) think it's

someone playing a prank on them until threats of the images being distributed to their friends and their social networks start."

The scammers, largely based in Nigeria or Southeast Asia, will either send a nude photo purporting to be them or coerce a picture from the victim. Then the threats start.

Despite a huge rise in reporting, police said it was only the tip of the iceberg.

"I think it's really important for victims to know that they're not alone, that this is happening and it's happening to a lot of people and hopefully that will encourage people to report it," Ms Szostak said.



Car show organiser Michael Brisbane gears up for the event with 1934 Ford owner Andy Noble and 2012 Harley Davidson V-Rod owner Jayden Loader. Picture: Alan Barber

For the 12th year, the Autopro Drysdale Classic Car & Bike Show will thrill and entertain vehicle enthusiasts this weekend.

The event, which has steadily grown to become one of Victoria's most well known events, will celebrate

its 12th year on Sunday.

The show will kick off at 10am at Drysdale Recreation Reserve, with trophies for the Autopro Drysdale top 10 to be presented at 1pm.

Live music will entertain visitors and a barbecue prepared by the Drysdale

Cricket Club – whose junior section benefits from the money raised – will be served throughout the day.

The event will be coupled with the Stockdale & Leggo Cruisin' the Bellarine Peninsula event on Saturday night.

The cruise leaves the Drysdale Recreation Reserve at 6pm, and will have participants taking in the sights of the Bellarine Peninsula, across the bay to Melbourne.

The cruise will pass through Portarlington,

Indented Head and St Leonards before returning to Drysdale Cricket Club for dinner and refreshments.

For more information, visit the Drysdale Autopro Classic Car & Bike Show Facebook page.

Huge seals, small menu

As one of the top predators roaming Antarctica, the sizeable southern elephant seal has its fair selection of the menu.

But it turns out they don't just want to eat anything and everything.

According to research led by UNSW Sydney, male southern elephant seals have favourite foods, and like to stick with them.

In other words, they're very

fussy eaters. "They could have the pick of the buffet and yet each male southern elephant seal eats a lot of the same food, which is just a fraction of what's on offer," lead author Andrea Cormack said.

"So, they are extremely picky eaters, each with their own unique favourite foods they go after, whether it be fish, squid species, crustaceans or octopus."



Bianca Censori in West's post.

Aussie's decorum goes West

Adella Bealini and Zoe Smith

Controversial rapper Kanye West says his Melbourne-born wife Bianca Censori will be wearing even less in 2024, after sharing a series of racy images of the architectural designer to his Instagram account.

Censori, 28, is seen pairing a micro top with a leather corset bottom, long trench coat and calf-high heeled boots. And in

one image, she models a black bikini so tiny it barely covers her nipples.

The second image shows Censori in a marble bathroom looking at the floor.

"Dropped sumn?" her husband, 46, wrote.

In a third snap, Censori sports a black micro G-string and a teeny, fuzzy pink bandeau that West captioned, "No pants this year."

Many social media users

were critical of the posts, labelling them "gross" and a "mess". Others argued West was trying too hard to mould Censori into his ex Kim Kardashian.

Another said: "Wait, didn't Kanye call Kim out for dressing too provocatively?"

West and Censori turned heads in Italy last year with bizarre public displays, leading to an investigation by police for possibly breaking "standards of public decorum".

CHAPTER EXTRACT

MATESHIP THROUGH DIRE STRAITS

Flinders and Bass are two of the best-recognised names in Australian history. **GRANTLEE KIEZA's** new biography of the former shows how the pair solved one of this land's great mysteries.

On September 3, 1798, the second Governor of NSW John Hunter wrote to Evan Nepean, the Secretary to the Board of Admiralty in London, to explain that his two adventurous young naval officers Matthew Flinders and the surgeon George Bass had both made recent voyages along the south coast of what is now the state of Victoria.

Bass had encountered seas which "rose to so mountainous a height that he had every reason to believe he was not covered by any land to the westward ... a circumstance which [corroborated] an opinion ... that there was a probability of an open strait thro[ugh]."

Hunter told the Admiralty that he was endeavouring to fit out a small boat of about fifteen tons for the two young officers to sail south again and finally confirm their shared opinion that Van Diemen's Land (now Tasmania) was an island. No one was certain of its true form, and it was a puzzle for navigators of the time, some of whom believed it was connected to the mainland.

The small vessel chosen for the voyage was the Norfolk, the first seagoing ship built on the remote island of Norfolk Island, in disregard

of Hunter's edict curtailing boatbuilding in a place with a large convict population.

After its first voyage across the Tasman Sea, the Norfolk had arrived in Sydney in June 1798 leaking like a colander.

Hunter gave Flinders, the leader of the expedition, instructions that should a strait be found, he should pass through it and return by the south end of Van Diemen's Land.

Twelve weeks were allowed for the voyage, and provisions for that time were put on board. Matthew wrote: "I had the happiness to associate my friend Bass in this new expedition, and to form an excellent crew of eight volunteers from the king's ships."

On October 1, as final preparations were being made and equipment was being loaded onto the Norfolk, Matthew's gaze shifted from the harbour to a spot up the hill on what is now the intersection of Hunter, Bligh and Castlereagh streets. Between seven and eight o'clock in the evening, Sydney's first and at that time only church had become a towering inferno, lighting up the night sky on the east side of the cove as orange flames snaked heavenward. Convicts and soldiers combined to fight the flames, but the wattle and daub building was consumed in an hour.



Governor Hunter said the fire was no accident, but the result of the enforced attendance of divine service for convicts.

Hunter posted a £30 reward and "absolute emancipation" to any convict informer if he revealed the culprit, but to Hunter's chagrin, "rewards and punishments alike" failed to find the arsonist.

Flinders had his own investigation to pursue, and on Sunday, October 7, 1798, the same day as the first service in a new temporary Sydney church, he and Bass and their crew on the Norfolk sailed out of Sydney Heads.

Matthew left Trim, his beloved cat, in safekeeping with friends, but he did take a greyhound on board to help in the chase for kangaroos for the dinner table.

The Nautilus, more than twice the size of Matthew's vessel, and carrying a crew of twenty-five, accompanied them on the voyage with a mission to hunt the huge seal populations around Van Diemen's Land.

The south-flowing current

pushed the two ships along and by 10pm the next day they had reached Cape Howe, where Matthew decided to rest for the night.

The weather turned in the morning and they had to shelter for six days in Twofold Bay.

Bass took the opportunity to further examine the countryside, while Matthew, aided by Roger Simpson, made a survey of the bay. On the long northern beach, the approach of the two men startled a group of Yui women and children, who fled screaming.

Soon afterward, though, one of the Indigenous men made his appearance.

"He was of middle age, unarmed, except for a whaddie, or wooden scimitar," Matthew said, "and came up to us seemingly with careless confidence."

Matthew gave him some hard biscuit, and he in turn presented Matthew with a piece of gristly fat, which Matthew guessed was probably from a whale. Matthew tasted it but, hoping

he wasn't being watched, spat it out as quickly as he could – only to see his new friend doing the same with the biscuit.

After more foul weather, the two ships finally left Twofold Bay on the morning of October 14, 1798, and three days later sighted the islands Matthew had named for William Kent. Foul weather prevented them from sailing west for two weeks.

Finally, on November 1, the little sloop left the Nautilus behind and headed west to investigate the possibility of a strait between Van Diemen's Land and New Holland that would greatly cut the travelling time for ships from Britain.

The Norfolk then sailed toward the north-eastern-most point of Van Diemen's Land, which Matthew named Cape Portland.

Matthew and his crew were now in uncharted waters, following a coastline that no European had mapped.

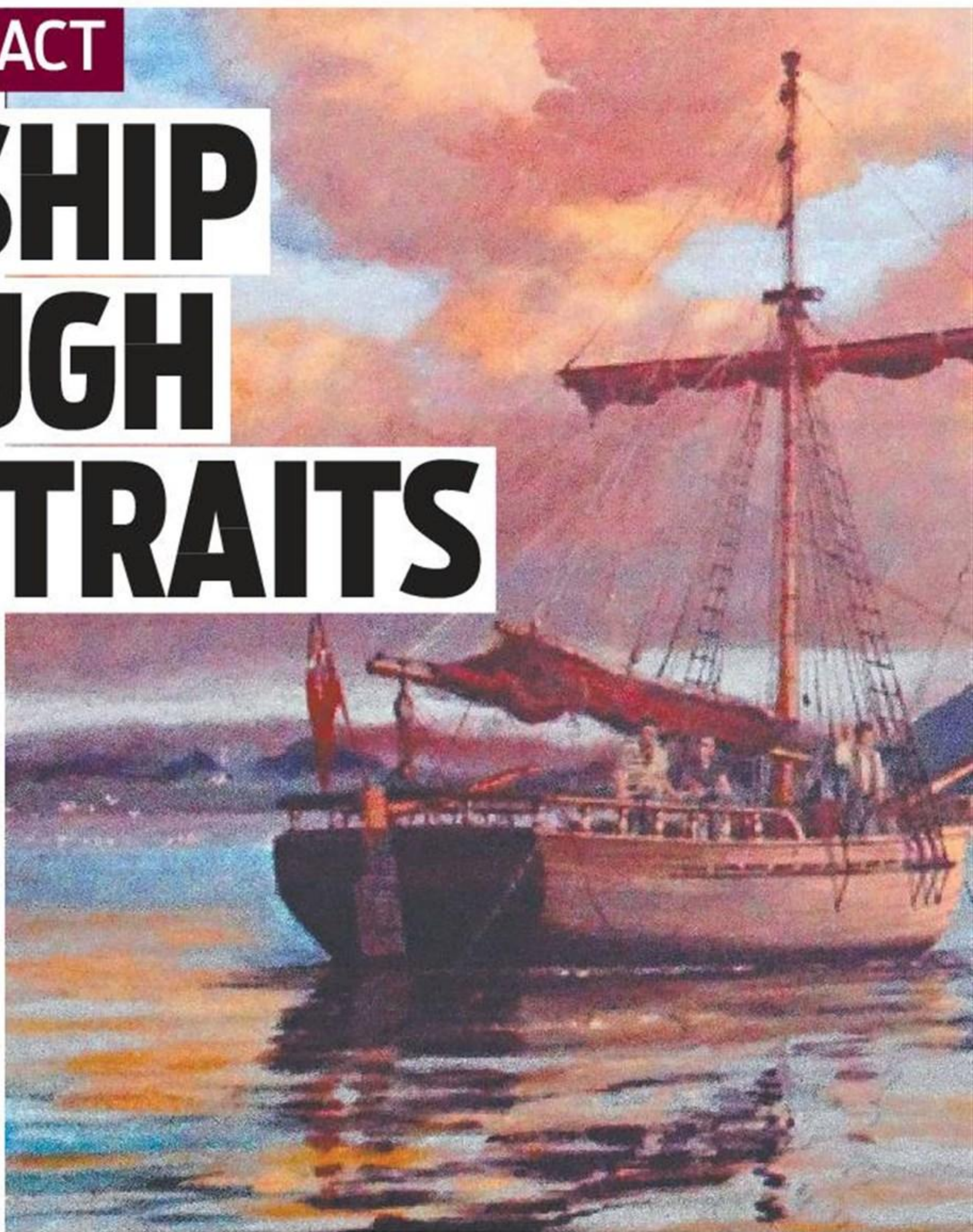
On November 3, Matthew rounded a point he called Low Head to find a wondrous sight.

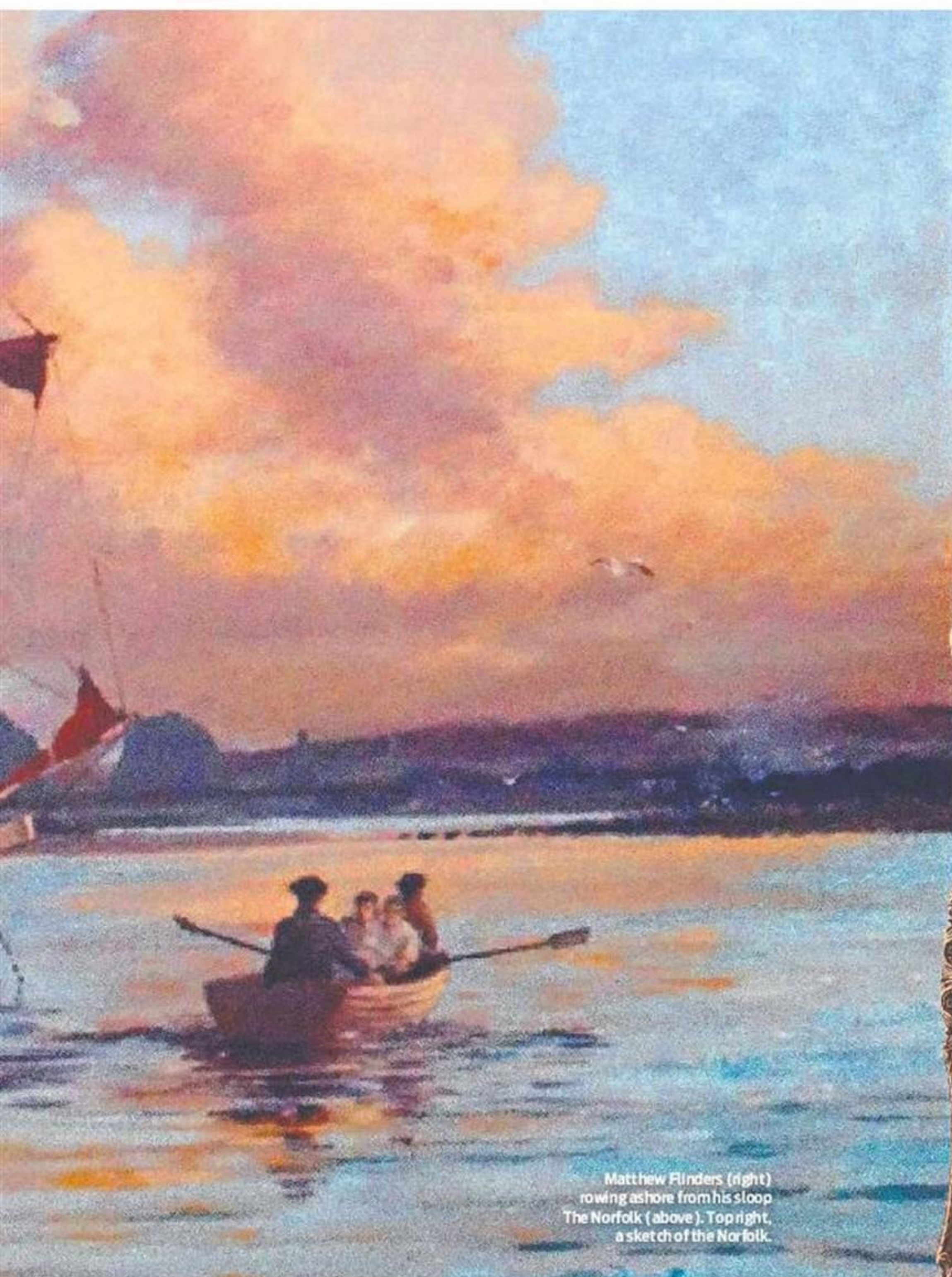
He entered a wide river mouth that showed immense potential. There appeared to be three arms, or rivers, discharging themselves into this extensive basin, and Bass took the Norfolk's small rowboat to explore as much as he could, though his attention quickly shifted to what he estimated were 300 black swans swimming within a small space. He gave chase. From experience he knew that only two-thirds of the flock could fly, and the rest would do no more than flap along upon the surface of the water.

It was a long chase, but Matthew and his crew rejoiced when Bass arrived with four birds to pluck.

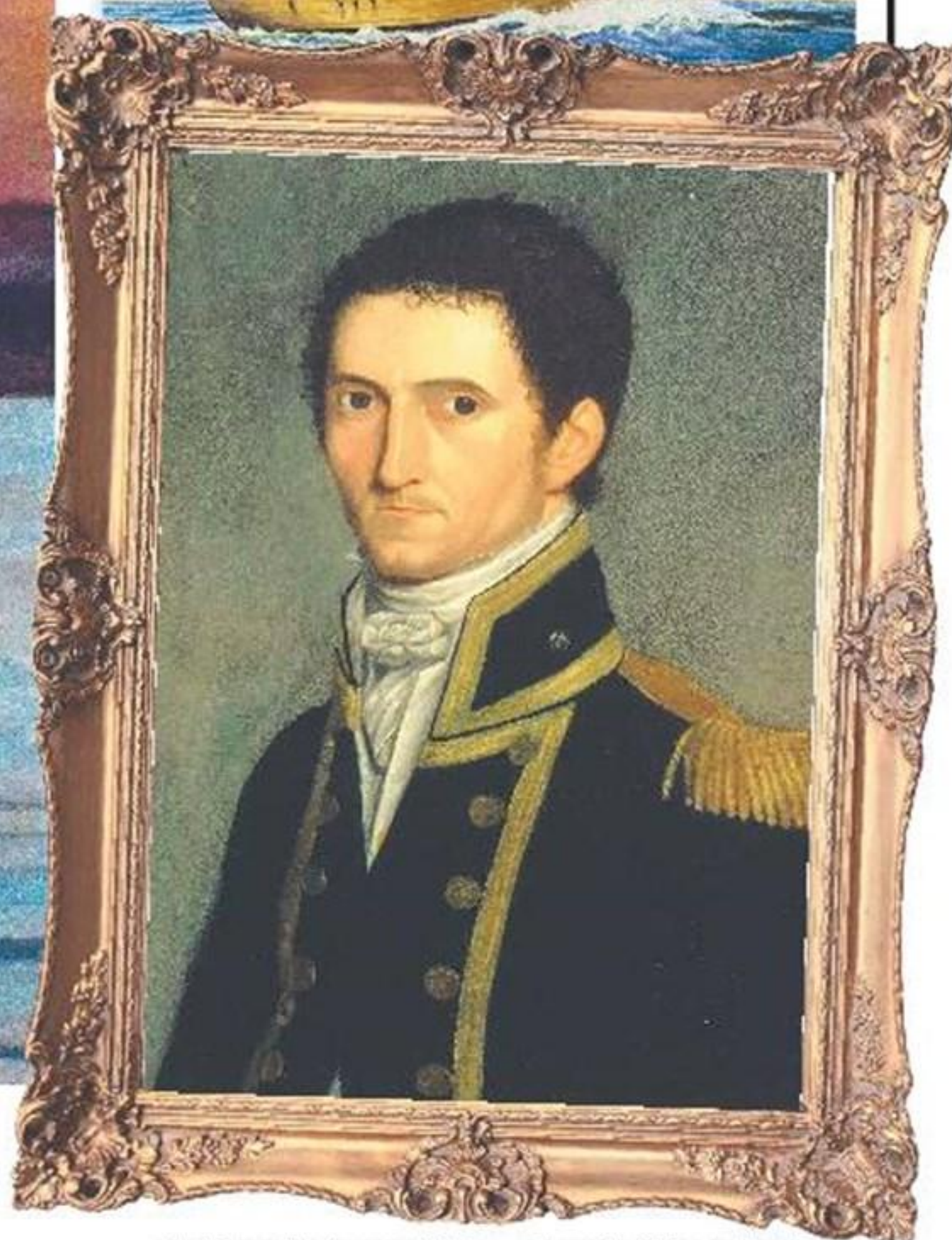
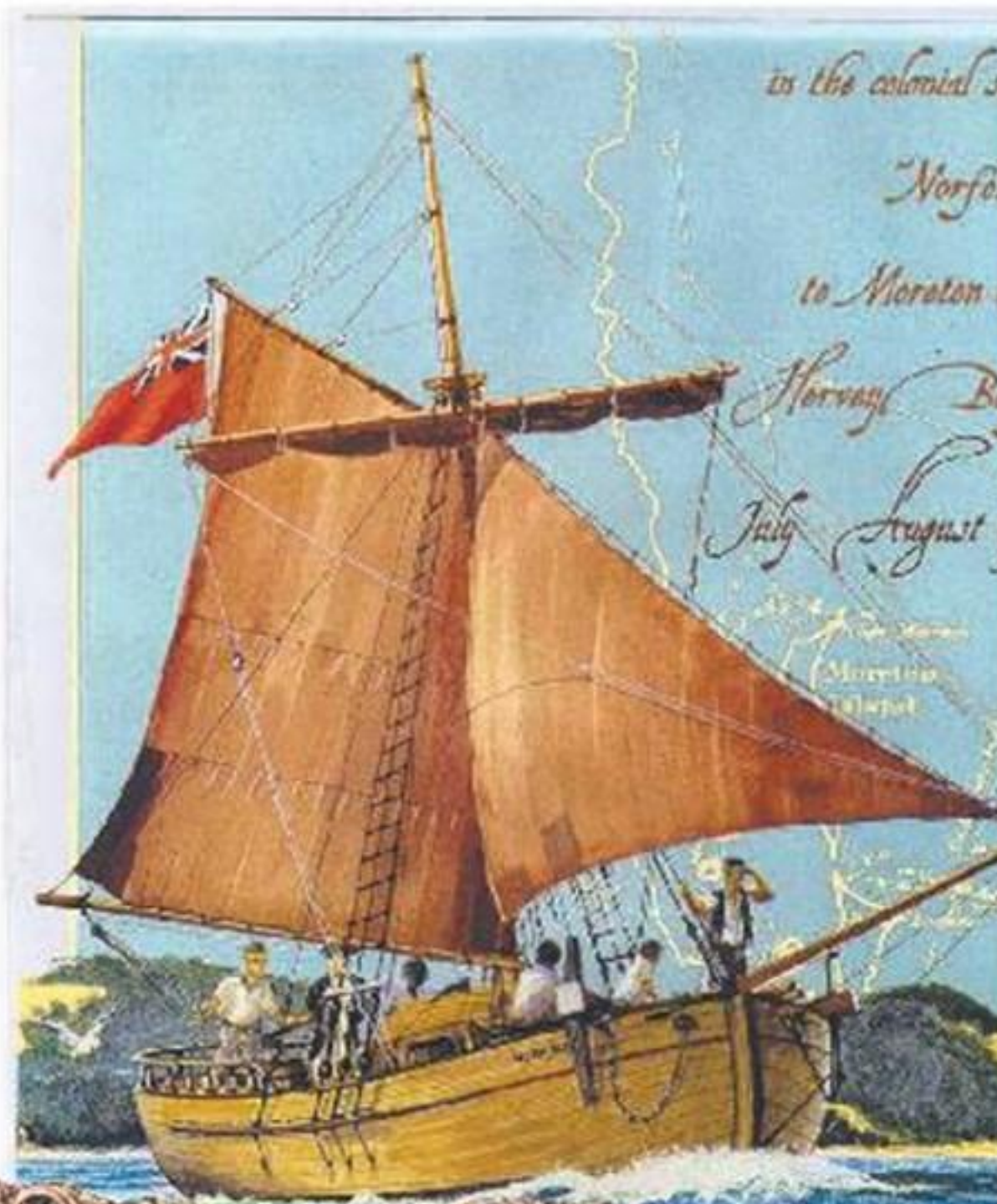
The next morning, Matthew landed Bass and two men to examine the countryside on foot and began a survey of the wide expanse of water. William Paterson would name the river as the Tamar in 1804.

There were many traces of Indigenous people on the shore, and on November 6 the crew saw a man setting fire to the grass in different places.





Matthew Flinders (right) rowing ashore from his sloop The Norfolk (above). Top right, a sketch of the Norfolk.



He did not stay to receive the newcomers.

Matthew concentrated on mapping the course of the wide river, steering the Norfolk south as his surveys demanded, and sometimes taking the boat for a closer inspection of the riverbanks, creeks and shoals.

Bass often explored the countryside on foot, using his knowledge of medicine and science to study the wonders of this new world.

Over the next two weeks he noted that there were probably as many Indigenous people in this part of the world as there were in New South Wales, judging by the number of huts which he saw, though he regretted what he took to be the "extreme shyness" of the local people because it prevented any communication.

"Their huts, of which seven or eight were frequently found together like a little encampment, were constructed of bark torn in long stripes from some neighbouring tree," Bass wrote.

"It is then broken into convenient lengths, and placed, slopingwise, against the elbowing part of some dead branch that has fallen off from the distorted limbs of the gum tree; and a little grass is sometimes thrown over the top."

Bass wrote that large grey kangaroos abounded in the open forest, but there was a smaller, darker kind that he thought the Eora people of Port Jackson called the 'Wali-bah' [or wallaby].

The explorers finally left the Tamar on November 20, but the fresh breezes of the morning turned into violent north-westerly winds and driving rain by the afternoon. The sloop was driven so far to the leeward during the night that Matthew admitted he was "not without apprehensions" about being dashed against the shore. The Norfolk reared and thrashed about in the wild sea, and late on the next day the storm-jib split.

The winds prevented Matthew travelling any further west, so he changed course and backtracked to the

northeast for a hundred kilometres or so, sailing for a safe anchorage at what he called Hamilton's Road, on the east end of Preservation Island.

The clock was ticking on the voyage: eight of the twelve weeks were nearly up, bad weather had already cost Matthew dearly, and the question of the mysterious strait remained.

Despite the dangers of sailing at night, Matthew took advantage of favourable winds on the evening of November 24 and set sail towards Port Dalrymple again. Before long the Norfolk faced another gale, but they reached the mouth of the Tamar and rode out the storm in the port. It took almost a week for sunny skies to emerge, but on December 3, 1798, they were back on course, gliding west under a light breeze. Two days and a hundred kilometres later, they reached the striking rock formations and stark cliffs of what Matthew called Rocky Cape.

By December 8, as they continued to struggle west

against unfavourable winds, another great swell began to rise, and there was every appearance of an approaching gale. Matthew considered sailing to the north for a safe harbour in Western Port, where Bass had been the year before. It seemed evident that the Norfolk could make no further progress westward, and might even be driven back, yet Matthew knew that, with the area around the western side of Western Port also being uncharted, it would be dangerous trying to reach there as well.

At daylight the next morning, December 9, the men on the Norfolk were staggered to first see a great flock of gannets coming out of a bight to the south. It was a remarkable spectacle, but only the opening act for one of the greatest shows Matthew ever saw.

The gannets were followed by sooty petrels – muttonbirds – in a display that left the ten men on the little ship

slack-jawed. A stream of birds "from fifty to eighty yards in depth, and of three hundred yards, or more, in breadth" flew past for a full hour and a half.

"On the lowest computation, I think the number could not have been less than a hundred millions," Matthew wrote, "and we were thence led to believe, that there must be, in the large bight, one or more uninhabited islands of considerable size."

A few hours after the men witnessed this stunning event, the Norfolk presented Matthew with another spectacle he would never forget.

The sloop rounded the northern end of an island Matthew named for Governor Hunter, and suddenly there was no more land to be seen to the west – just a long swell crashing heavily with foaming surf upon a small reef. Matthew, Bass and the crew

cheered with joy and mutual congratulations: this grand sight announced their longed-for discovery.

They had found the strait into the Southern Ocean. They now knew that Van Diemen's Land was an island.

On January 11, 1799, Matthew noted: "To the strait which had been the great object of research, and whose discovery was now completed, Governor Hunter gave, at my recommendation, the name of BASS STRAIT. This was no more than a just tribute to my worthy friend and companion, for the extreme dangers and fatigues he had undergone."

Hunter alerted Evan Nepean that "Lt. Flinders and Mr. George Bass, [had] completely circumnavigated Van Diemen's Land, formerly considered a part of this country."

This is an edited extract from *Flinders* by Grantlee Kieza, published by HarperCollins and available now.

Albanese dodges cover-up question

Ellen Ransley,
Jack Quail and
Madeleine Achenza

Prime Minister Anthony Albanese has refused to say whether he believes the Morrison government tried to "cover up" Howard-era documents about Australia's involvement in the Iraq war.

It comes after the revelation on New Year's Day that 78 documents were missing from a now declassified file created in 2003, which reveal then-prime minister John Howard's decision-making process



before Australia entered the Iraq war. The documents suggest Mr

Howard had decided to join the US-led invasion before taking the matter to cabinet.

Speaking at a press conference on Wednesday, Mr Albanese (inset) was asked if he was concerned about a "cover up" in regards to the missing documents.

"Well, that's why we have asked Dennis Richardson to do the review," he responded.

"I'm not aware of the circumstances. Obviously, I wasn't a member of the cabinet in 2003."

He went on to add there was "no public servant in Australia who is more respected" than Mr Richardson, the former defence department secretary.

Mr Richardson is due to report the results of his review in the next two weeks.

The Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet had revealed just hours before the 2003 papers were made public that the missing documents were not lost, but had not been handed over by the Morrison government to the archives, "oversights" it said was "likely as a result of Covid-19 disruptions at the time".

The department said the missing documents had been located on December 19 and had been since transferred to the archives.

Mr Albanese said on Wednesday that he expected all the missing documents to be released by the National Archives, save for anything that could compromise national security.

Dozen Aussies escape Japanese plane crash

Jet passengers safe after crash with smaller aircraft that killed five



The Japan Airlines plane on fire on a runway of Tokyo's Haneda Airport. Picture: JUI PRESS / AFP

AFP

Twelve Australians were on board the Japan Airlines passenger jet that collided with a Japan Coast Guard plane at Tokyo's Haneda Airport, according to Emergency Management Minister Murray Watt.

"I know this time of year, Japan is a pretty popular tourist destination for Australians. My understanding is that with the plane crash, there were about 12 Australian passengers on those planes, but none have been injured," Mr Watt told Sky News.

All 379 passengers and crew on board the passenger plane which burst into flames were safely evacuated, Japanese transport minister Tetsuo Saito told reporters.

But five of the six crew

members from the smaller plane – bound for central Japan after Monday's huge earthquake – died, he said.

The captain escaped and survived but was injured, he said, cautioning that "we're not at the stage to explain the cause" of the accident.

Television and unverified footage shared on social media showed the Japan Airlines (JAL) airliner moving along the runway before a large eruption of orange flames and black smoke burst from beneath and behind it.

Video posted to social media platform X showed people sliding down an inflatable emergency slide from the side of the passenger plane while flames shot out from the rear of the aircraft.

All 367 passengers plus 12 crew on-board were swiftly

taken off the plane before dozens of fire engines with flashing blue lights sprayed the fuselage.

They however failed to put out the flames coming out of windows near the wings and the blaze soon engulfed the entire aircraft.

The plane, reportedly an Airbus 350, had arrived from New Chitose Airport serving Sapporo on the northern island of Hokkaido. Those on board included eight children.

"Smoke began to fill the plane, and I thought, 'this could be really bad', an adult male passenger told reporters.

"An announcement said doors in the back and middle could not be opened. So everyone disembarked from the front," he said.

A female passenger said it had been dark on-board as the

fire intensified after landing.

"It was getting hot inside the plane, and I thought, to be honest, I would not survive," she said in comments shown on broadcaster NHK.

The coast guard plane had been preparing to fly to Ishikawa prefecture to deliver supplies after the devastating New Year's Day earthquake which killed at least 48 people.

Prime Minister Fumio Kishida praised the deceased crew members on their way to help the victims of the quake.

"These were employees who had a high sense of mission and responsibility for the affected areas. It's very regrettable," he told reporters at the airport.

"I express my respect and gratitude to their sense of mission," he said.

Haneda suspended dom-

estic flights in the wake of the fire on the runway, according to its website, but most international takeoffs and landings were still operating.

There was also burning debris on the runway at Haneda, one of the world's busiest airports.

A transport ministry official said investigations into the incident were ongoing, including exchanges between the flights and air traffic control.

Japan has not suffered a serious commercial aviation accident in decades.

Its worst ever accident was in 1985, when a JAL jumbo jet flying from Tokyo to Osaka crashed in central Gunma region, killing 520 passengers and crew.

That disaster was one of the world's deadliest plane crashes involving a single flight.

Response to public 'love letter' goes viral

Jordan McCarthy

A public declaration of love has led to a response from an Australian deputy mayor that has gone viral, with his post gathering more than 5000 likes in just a few days.

Gladstone Regional Council Deputy Mayor Kahn Goodluck shared an image of a road sign that had "I love you Hannah" spray-painted across it in neon pink paint while also add-



ing that the lovelorn artist's message had been "plastered all over town" at 20 or more other locations.

Mr Goodluck said he was sure Hannahs everywhere

were appreciative of the attention, but the cost of fixing the signs would land on taxpayers.

"I'm sure everyone travelling around BITS over the last few days has noticed that someone out there really, REALLY loves Hannah," he wrote.

"While this very public display of affection has no doubt left many Hannahs feeling the love, it will cost ratepayers money for crews to head out and clean all this up.

"Please don't use public roads, road signs and car parks as your personal love letters."

Mr Goodluck did have alternative ideas for the local Romeo, however.

"You can try: Writing 'I love you Hannah' on a nice hand made card, buying some chocolates or a piece of jewellery or a surprise picnic in the park," he said.

If caught, the artist could face a fine as much as \$3096.

We understand clucks

Seven out of 10 humans can correctly tell if a chicken is happy or not based on their clucks, according to Australian researchers.

A University of Queensland team recruited nearly 200 people and played them recordings of different chicken calls – some where they were expecting a reward and some from other contexts.

The researchers say 69 per

cent of participants correctly guessed whether a chicken was excited about a potential reward, and previous experience didn't appear to change how accurate their guesses were.

The researchers say this provides evidence that we may be able to innately perceive the emotions of chickens, which could help us make better choices about their welfare.



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'Bolero' 7-Piece Rectangular Dining Suite.
Suite consists of a Black Gloss dining table with tempered glass tabletop (W210 x D100 x H76) and six Black PU dining chairs.
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POWERED RECLINERS
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'Essen' 2.5-Seater Leather Powered Recliner Sofa.
Featured in Ochre leather.
Also available in Black and Light Grey leather options.
Also available to order:
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Leather Ottoman **\$699**

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'Adven' 9-Piece Rectangular Dining Suite.
Suite consists of a dining table with solid South American Ash Timber tabletop and black timber legs (W210 x D100 x H76.5cm) and eight 'Civic' PU dining chairs. Chairs available in Black PU (as pictured) or Grey Fabric.
Also available to order:
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Available in store & online.



HOT DEAL
\$2499

'Aurora MK2' 7-Piece Rectangular Dining Suite.
Suite consists of a dining table with marble tabletop in Opal Grey film and black metal base (W210 x D105 x H76cm), and six Dining Chairs available in Pearl or Graphite PU with Dark Charcoal PU piping.
Also available to order:
210cm Rectangular Dining Table **\$1699**
PU Dining Chair **\$229ea** | 180cm 2-Door/3-Drawer Buffet **\$1999**

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Products may require assembly.

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- Zero wall proximity to minimise space
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'Whitehaven' Fabric Powered Recliner Armchair.

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'Sven' Leather Swivel Recliner with Built-In Footstool.

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'Longreef' Fabric Lift Chair.

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'Bitola' Leather Lift Chair.

Available in 'Taupe' or 'Grey' leather options.



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'Solace' Fabric Dual Motor Lift Chair.

Available in 'Dove' or 'Moss' fabric options.



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'Sadler' Fabric Triple Motor Lift Chair with Massage.

Available in 'Grey' or 'Granite' fabric options.
Also available: Leather Triple Motor Lift Chair with Massage \$2899

Twisted takes on iconic Mickey

AFP

Barely 24 hours after Disney's initial copyright on Mickey Mouse expired, two new indie horror films starring the character have been announced.

Steamboat Willie, the first Disney movie to feature Mickey, entered the public domain under US law on Monday, 95 years on from its initial release.

That means anyone is now free to copy, share, reuse and adapt the primitive, early versions of the characters that appear within the film, including Mickey and girlfriend Minnie.

Despite warnings from Disney that it would seek to safeguard its most iconic character, opportunistic filmmakers had been expected to quickly announce their own unofficial remakes and adaptations – and they did not disappoint.

Mickey's Mouse Trap will feature a masked killer dressed as Mickey stalking a group of young friends through an amusement arcade, while another untitled horror-comedy sees a sadistic mouse tormenting unsuspecting ferry passengers.

"We just wanted to have fun with it all," said Mickey's Mouse Trap director Jamie Bailey, in a trailer posted on YouTube.

"I mean it's Steamboat Willie's Mickey Mouse murdering people. It's ridiculous. We ran with it and had fun doing it and I think it shows."

The low-budget horror-comedy is expected to launch in March.

Meanwhile filmmaker Steven LaMorte – known for The Mean One, a 2022 slasher romp inspired by The Grinch – is working on his own "twisted take" on Mickey.

"Steamboat Willie has brought joy to generations, but beneath that cheerful exterior lies a potential for pure, unhinged terror," he said.

Analysts say Disney is likely to send in the lawyers if anyone oversteps.

Only the earliest, black-and-white version of Mickey is in the public domain – not the colourful character from later Disney films like Fantasia. And trademark protections mean that any film or product that could mislead consumers into thinking it was made by Disney could be liable.



Meghan and Harry in Dusseldorf last year. Picture: Getty

'Redemption unlikely'

Tiffany Bakker

Meghan Markle and Prince Harry won't get the "year of redemption" they are hoping for in 2024, according to a royal author.

The Duke and Duchess of Sussex are said to be planning a fresh start, after facing backlash last year for their Netflix documentary and Prince Harry's bombshell biography, Spare.

"Harry and Meghan have let it be known that they see 2024 as their year of redemption, to which my reaction is 'good luck with that'," said royal expert and author Phil Dampier.

"It's a trite phrase dreamt up by their Hollywood PR

people and in reality means very little. Actions speak louder than words and the Sussexs need to do things which will convince the public that they want to redeem themselves, not just talk about it."

The Sussexs' absence was strikingly apparent on Christmas Day when the rest of the royal family, including King Charles, Prince William and Kate Middleton, went to church at Sandringham.

Mr Dampier said the inclusion of Prince Andrew's former wife, Sarah Ferguson, on the Christmas guest list for the first time in years, sent a strong message.

"The royals put on a show of unity at Christmas, with

even Prince Andrew's ex-wife Fergie being allowed to walk to church and join them for lunch," he said.

"The message was clear – everyone was welcome except Harry and Meghan."

Mr Dampier said Harry and Meghan could not "compete" with the Prince and Princess of Wales.

"I think the penny has finally dropped with them that they can never compete with an ancient institution admired around the world, particularly the goodwill still lingering from the late Queen's reign," he said.

"William and Kate have never been more popular and the Sussexs can't hold a candle to them."

Hamas deputy killed by drone

Fears conflict will widen

Andrew Koubaridis and Tiffany Bakker

Hamas's deputy leader was killed in an Israeli drone strike in suburban Beirut as Israel's war against Palestinian militants reached Lebanon.

Saleh al-Aruri was killed along with his bodyguards in the strike by Israel, which vowed to destroy Hamas after the movement's unprecedented October 7 attacks on Israel.

Aruri, one of the founders of Hamas' military wing, had headed the group's presence in the West Bank and had been a target for Israel even before the October 7 attack that killed 1,200 Israelis.

Israel has previously announced the killing in Gaza of Hamas commanders and officials during the war, but Aruri is the most high-profile figure to be killed, and his death came in the first strike on the Lebanese capital since the war began. Israeli army spokesman Daniel Hagari did not directly comment on Aruri's killing but said the military was "highly prepared for any scenario" in its aftermath.

A security official in Lebanon confirmed the information about Aruri's killing.

Lebanese state media reported the strike hit a Hamas office in Beirut's southern suburbs, a stronghold of Lebanon's Iran-backed Hezbollah movement, a Hamas ally.

Hamas TV also said Israel had killed Aruri in Lebanon, and Lebanese media reported a total of seven people were killed in the attack by an Israeli drone. The strike fuels widespread fears that the nearly

three-month-old Israel-Hamas war could become a wider regional conflict.

Hamas said the killing would not lead to its defeat, while Hezbollah vowed Aruri's death would not go "unpunished".

Hezbollah called it "a serious assault on Lebanon ... and a dangerous development in the course of the war".

Lebanese Prime Minister Najib Mikati condemned the killing and said it "aims to draw Lebanon" further into the Israel-Hamas war.

In a call with Israeli war cabinet member Benny Gantz after the strike, French President Emmanuel Macron urged Israel to "avoid any escalatory attitude, particularly in Lebanon".

Since the fighting began on October 8, the fighting has been concentrated a few kilometres from the border but on several occasions Israel's air force hit Hezbollah targets deeper in Lebanon.

Earlier in the day, Hezbollah said its fighters carried out several attacks along the Lebanon-Israel border targeting Israeli military posts. It comes as Israeli troops announced they had also killed a Hamas commander who helped lead the October 7 attack.

Adil Mismah, the Nukhba Company Commander of the city of Deir al-Balah, was "eliminated," Israeli Defense Forces said via social media.

Mismah had led terrorists into the Kibbutz Kissufim and ordered other gunmen to ravage the communities of Nirim and Be'eri, according to The Jerusalem Post.

The commander was slain in an air strike directed by Israeli ground troops, officials said.

Drugs fear unfounded

A chemical used in the diabetes drug Ozempic and the weight-management drug Wegovy is not associated with an increased risk for suicidal thoughts, US researchers say.

The Case Western Reserve School of Medicine findings about the chemical – known as semaglutide – is significant because this summer the European Medicines Agency (EMA)

launched an investigation of its potential dangers.

Semaglutide is a chemical of the glucagon-like peptide receptor (GLP-1R) that helps regulate blood sugar in type 2 diabetes and reduces appetite.

After examining about two million patients, the research team found no evidence to support the EMA's concern that semaglutide may cause suicidal ideations.

Nostradamus' 2024 prophecy comes true

Ben Cost - New York Post

It was a literally groundbreaking prophecy.

As if Nostradamus' foretellings weren't eerily accurate enough, the iconic astrologer was apparently right on the money with yet another apocalyptic prophecy just hours into 2024.

Also known as the Prophet Of Doom, the 16th-century French philosopher is best

known for his foreboding forecasts, which he chronicled in his 1555 text "Les Propheties".

These 943 verses are somewhat too vague to be sure, but Nostradamus has been credited with predicting everything from the Rise Of Adolf Hitler to Covid-19 like a 450-year-old Century "Simpsons" cartoon.

This time, the Frenchman was credited with forecasting the powerful earthquake that rocked Japan on New Year's

Day. Outlining his predictions for 2024, the oracle wrote, "The dry Earth will become more parched and there will be great floods."

The psychic's followers reckoned that he could've been referring to the 7.5 magnitude tremor that struck the nation's Western coast, killing 48 people, toppling buildings and sparking 1m-high tsunamis.

According to reports, residents in coastal communities

fled to higher ground as the waves battered the coast, sweeping houses and cars into the sea.

Nostradamus' prediction was apparently not the only harbinger of a seismic calamity.

Over the summer, divers in Taiwan encountered an injured giant oarfish, the "Doomsday fish" which is said to be a sign of impending earthquakes.

Opinion



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January weather is unpredictable at best – it can be beach perfect in the morning and a furious storm after lunch.

It's hard to plan whole day with certainty, which means it's a great time to head to the movies and the summer of 2024 is actually looking pretty great for the flicks.

Stop Making Sense, the 40th anniversary edition was the start of my re-engagement. This Talking Heads film set the template for all future concert movies.

There is no point watching this movie on your laptop. The vision was always epic.

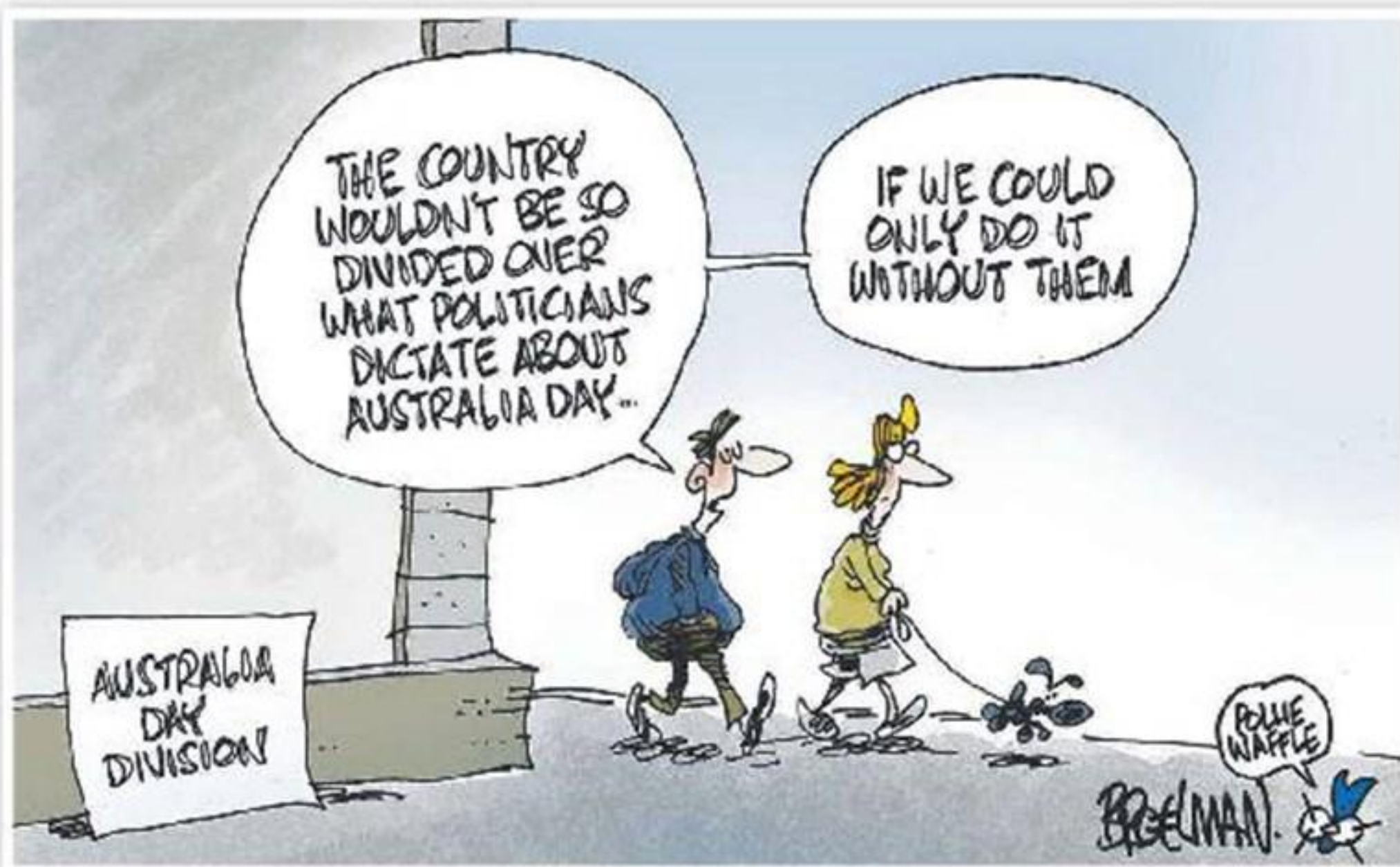
Directed by Jonathan Demme, this music film has no backstage interviews or cut-aways to a "life on tour". It was created to give the audience an authentic big-screen experience and the template has been revisited by all the great concert movies since.

So, when the 40th anniversary edition was released, I happily drove 2½ hours to the cinema.

The 40th anniversary edition was a remastered masterpiece and worth the trip.

But my most recent movie menu has included Poor Things and Maestro. Two radically different stories, but both films need to be seen with big speakers and the beautiful darkness of the movie theatre.

Poor Things is a wild ride into the



revisitation of the Frankenstein story. Emma Stone is extraordinary, and the supporting cast is a collection of perfect cameos.

Adapted for the screen by Australian playwright and screenwriter Tony McNamara, Poor Things is both a challenge and a delight. It's a little long, but worth the price of admission.

Maestro is the stunner.

Is there anything Bradley Cooper cannot do?

The star of The Hangover and A Star is Born, is again bound for Oscar glory with this extraordinary film. Cooper co-wrote it, stars in it

and directed it. His performance is mesmerizing, and it is matched in nuance and tragic observation by his co-star Carrie Mulligan.

The design and editing are amazing. The dialogue runs like a train, a symphony of eavesdropping.

It's a complete poetic language of American tragedy, conjured effortlessly, as if Tennessee Williams met Jimmy Cagney in a nightclub and went out dancing with Edward Albee. But the next on my list is Dream Scenario, featuring Michael Cera and starring Nicolas Cage.

Cage is the Bob Dylan of actors. He never stops working, and not all

of his stories are incredible, but every now and then he drops an artistic grenade to remind the world of his genius. Cage has made movies that change the game – Moonstruck, Leaving Las Vegas, Face/Off and Adaptation.

Now, in Dream Scenario, the journeyman plays an everyman who appears in all our dreams.

What a great cinematic idea.

Dreamscape landscapes are perfect cinema. So, this week if it's raining or 40C, I know where I'm going to be ... in my dreams, at the movies.

Ross Mueller is a freelance writer and playwright



1688

ON THIS day

1688 English privateer William Dampier (above) anchors near Cape Leveque off northwestern Australia. He returns 11 years later to be one of the first to map the Australian coast.

1809 French educator Louis Braille, who developed a system of printing and writing that is extensively used by the blind and that was named for him, is born near Paris.

1815 The Francis and Eliza, en route to Australia with 123 convicts, is captured by US privateer Warrior and pillaged. Later released, it reaches Sydney on August 8.

1923 Vladimir Ulyanov, aka Lenin, on his deathbed, writes a note that Josef Stalin cannot be trusted to exercise his power wisely, and should be removed as Soviet Communist Party general secretary.

1943 Prime minister John Curtin asks the ALP federal conference to drop the party's ban on conscription for overseas service. Next day the party does so, by 24-12.

1958 Soviet Sputnik 1, the first satellite launched by man, breaks up in the upper atmosphere after completing about 1440 circuits of Earth and travelling about 70 million kilometres on its 92-day mission.

1960 French novelist and playwright Albert Camus, who received the 1957 Nobel prize for Literature, is killed in a car accident.

1965 American-English author T.S. Eliot, a leader of the Modernist movement in poetry in such works as The Waste Land (1922), dies in London.

1988 National Australia Bank staff in Chinatown, Sydney, find robbers, never found, had blasted their way into vaults over three days to take \$20 million in gold and other valuables.

2004 Former Sydney boxing champion Jeff Fenech is stabbed near a restaurant at Brighton-LeSands; two brothers get six-month jail terms.

EDITOR'S NOTE

Communities face change

It's no secret that the Bellarine Peninsula and Surf Coast are rapidly growing communities.

Once a sleepy seaside hamlet, Portarlington's population grew from 3619 residents to 4436 between 2016 and 2021.

As the population of our coastline grows, it is inevitable that the amenities and buildings will also change. As the Geelong Advertiser reports today, there are more than \$200m worth of developments either planned or approved for the coast.

For many, it's an exciting time, while others are staunchly opposed to the irreversible change such large-scale development could create. This year we will likely see many of the most contentious projects finally get off the ground.

Renewables deceit

In the GA on 27/12 was an article stating that "Barwon Health won the Victorian Public Healthcare Awards last month for creating a sustainable and climate resilient health system, thanks to a power purchasing agreement with the Mount Gellibrand wind farm".

Ray Peck (GA, 30/12) congratulated them.

He wrote: "But no doubt some will question why sourcing power from a wind farm is a health initiative."

The only problem is that it is not true. Barwon Health don't "source power from a wind farm".

They get the same electricity as anybody else connected to the grid. Many corporate bodies are also claiming that they are "100 per cent renewable" but it's all just a virtue signalling accounting trick.

What happens is that they enter into a power purchasing agreement

(PPA) with a wind farm which guarantees it a fixed price for its electricity for 10 years and they receive renewable energy certificates from the wind farm.

They then wave these certificates around, claiming they are 100 per cent renewable. But 100 per cent of the generated output from the wind farm goes directly into the electricity grid, not to Barwon Health.

The usual suspects will reply to my letter saying indignantly that a PPA enables more wind and solar farms to be economically viable, but if wind and solar are so cheap, why do they need assistance?

Welcome to the deceitful world of renewables.

Peter Rees, Torquay

Council fails

More to the point with local member Christine Couzens's queries about Geelong council cash matters is why the council is saddled with the

provision of infrastructure? And even more to the point is the whereabouts of what amounts to around \$2bn of rates moneys that have gone into the council's coffers in the last couple of years, with \$600m going in last financial year?

The council has shown its fiscal incompetence in several ways with, firstly its sacking, some years ago.

The administrators/monitors were given the tasks, firstly, of cleaning up the council's finances, and, secondly, of dealing with the rampant bullying at the council.

The administrators achieved neither as the bullying is still rampant and the council's finances are still in disarray.

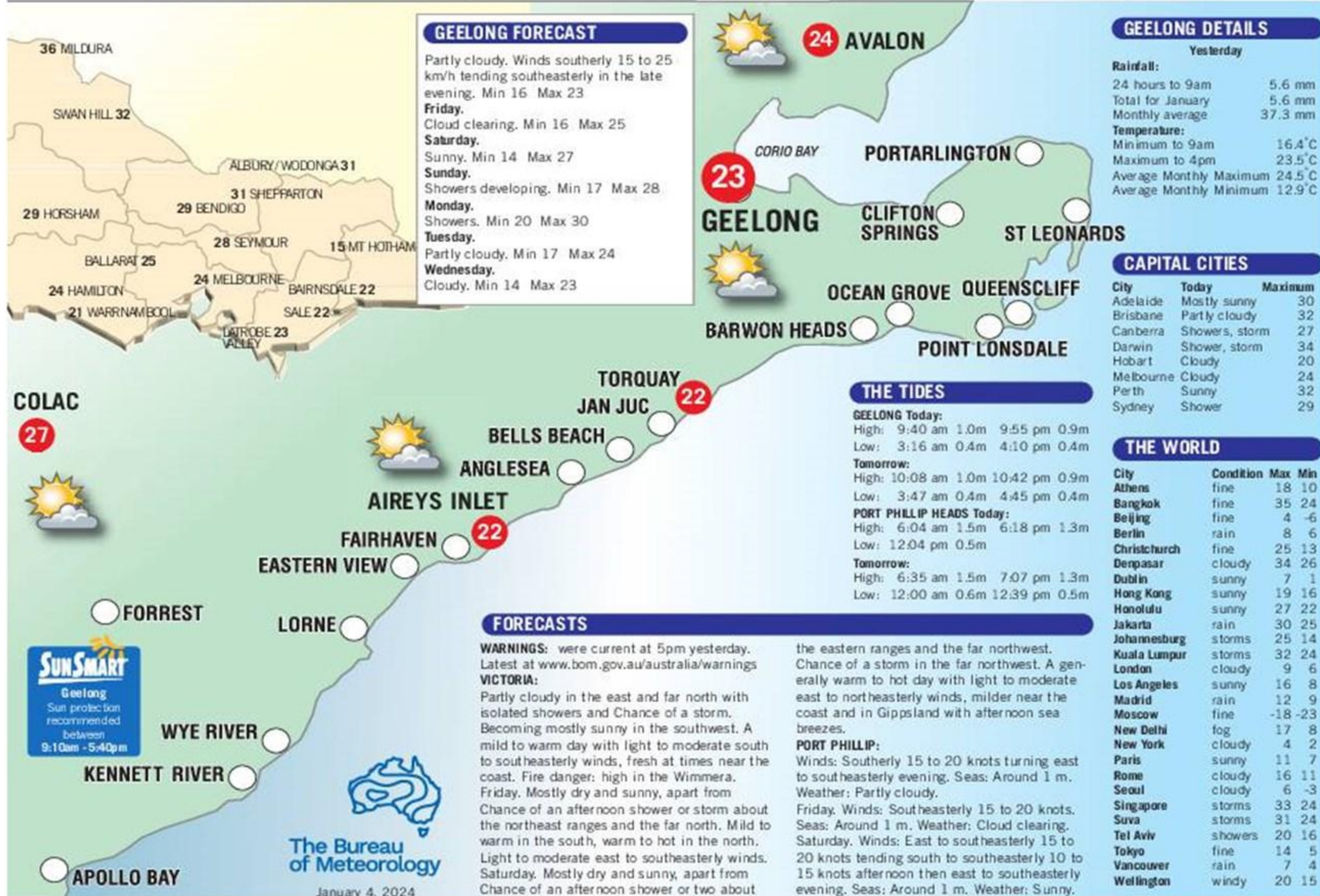
So how this incompetent council can be charged with delivering anything as serious as infrastructure is beyond me, and especially when it cannot deliver on its obligations as to basic municipal maintenance.

Gary Oranluk, Geelong West

GEELONG Partly cloudy. 23

Tomorrow 25 Saturday 27 Sunday 28

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'Coastal' Desk.
 (W137 x D60 x H76cm).
Also available to order:
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 Desk Organiser (W68 x D30 x H18cm) **\$79**



\$699
'Huron' Small Executive Desk.
 (W167.6 x D74.8 x H77.8cm).
Also available to order:
 Large Executive Desk (W182.9 x D91.4 x H77.8cm) **\$799**
 'Brighton' PU Office Chair **\$349**



\$999
'Sophie' 3-Piece Desk.
 Featured in Ash and White. Also available in Walnut and Grey. Includes a table (W160 x D80 x H75cm), mobile pedestal (W40 x D40 x H63.7cm) and credenza (W80 x D40 x H75cm).

OFFICE & GAMING CHAIRS



\$249
'Webster' Office Chair.
 Available in Grey, Black or Blue.



\$299
'Diesel' PU Gaming Chair.
 Available in Blue or Red.



\$399
'Raptor' Race Tec Fabric Gaming Chair.
 Available in Red or Black.



\$499
'Arlington' PU Office Chair.
 Available in Ivory or Black.

ENTERTAINMENT UNITS



AMAZING DEAL
\$899
'Avio' 303cm Home Theatre Wall Unit.
 Features include storage, shelving and LED lights.
 (W303 x D47 x H193cm).



\$459
'Harry' 180cm Entertainment Unit.
 (W180 x D45.5 x H55cm).
 120cm, 150cm & 210cm Entertainment Unit options also available, see store for details

USB OUTLET, WIRELESS CHARGER
 AND LED LIGHT FEATURES:



\$959
'Lumi' 200cm Entertainment Unit.
 (W200 x D45 x H48cm).
Also available:
 150cm Entertainment Unit **\$859**
 Available to order in White (as pictured) or Black.



\$799
'Bahamas' 153cm Entertainment Unit.
 (W153 x D45 x H55cm)
Also available:
 180cm Entertainment Unit **\$899**



\$1099
'Felix' 277-364cm Entertainment Unit.
 (W277-364 x D45 x H45cm).
 Available to order in Black (as shown), White or Brushed Elm.
Also available:
 195-265cm Entertainment Unit **\$959**

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HOT DEAL

\$399

'Emma' Upholstered Queen Bed.
Features a square-tufted bedhead in a light grey fabric upholstery with slanted pine legs.
Also available to order:
Double Bed \$399



HOT DEAL

\$499

'Villa' Upholstered Queen Bed.
Upholstered in Grey fabric upholstery with a contemporary stitch design. Available in a selection of sizes.
Also available to order: Single Bed \$399 | King Single Bed \$429 | Double Bed \$449 | King Bed \$599



GREAT PRICE

\$799

'Oakley' 2-Drawer Upholstered Queen Bed.
Experience the stunning simplicity and convenient storage options of this classic bed.
Also available to order:
1-Drawer King Single Bed \$649 | 2-Drawer Double Bed \$799



HOT DEAL

\$899

'Melina' Upholstered 2-Drawer Queen Bed.
The Melina Bed's plush panels and luxe velvet fabric is designed with comfort and practicality in mind, with two footend drawers.
Also available to order: King Single Bed \$799 | Double Bed \$899 | King Bed \$999



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USB CHARGER

VALUE PACKED

\$1199

'Colmar' Upholstered Queen Bed.
Featuring plush upholstery and solid timber plinth with USB port access and wireless charging.
Also available to order:
Upholstered King Bed \$1399 | Upholstered Double Bed \$1199



BONUS*
LOCAL DELIVERY

HIGH FOOT AND 'BARK' COLOUR OPTION

GREAT PRICE

\$1299

'Waldorf' Low Foot Upholstered Queen Bed.
Featured in 'Steel' fabric. Enjoy the luxury of a high bedhead complete with buttoned detail and curved wings.
Also available to order: Low Foot King Bed \$1599 | High Foot Queen Bed \$1799 | High Foot King Bed \$1899

GREAT DEALS LIMITED TIME ONLY!



AMAZING OFFER

\$499

'Telford' Upholstered Queen Bed.

Featured in 'Stone' fabric with two cushions attached to the bedhead for a contemporary, comfortable look.
Also available to order: Double Bed \$499



USB CHARGER

GREAT PRICE

\$599

'Lennox' Upholstered Queen Bed.

The Lennox features 2 USB Chargers in its contemporary grey upholstered bedhead.
Also available to order: Double Bed \$599
2-Drawer Bedside Table \$249ea | 4-Drawer Tallboy \$699



4 STORAGE DRAWERS

AMAZING VALUE

\$999

'Calista' 4-Drawer Upholstered Queen Bed.

Upholstered grey bed with four convenient storage drawers. Buttoned detail bedhead and studs.
Also available to order: 4-Drawer Double Bed \$899 | 4-Drawer King Bed \$1099



GASLIFT STORAGE

LUXE DEAL

\$1199

'Opal' Upholstered Gaslift Queen Bed.

Set an elegant tone for your bedroom with timeless style and smart storage. Also available in 'Black' and 'Charcoal'.
Also available to order: Double Gaslift Bed \$1199 | King Gaslift Bed \$1399



BONUS LOCAL DELIVERY

CHOOSE YOUR FABRIC

\$2199

'Winton' Queen Bed.

Featured in Warwick 'Burwood Nectar' fabric. Available in a selection of sizes and fabric options or as a bedhead only.
Also available to order: Single Bed \$1699 | King Single Bed \$1899 | Double Bed \$1999 | King Bed \$2499



BONUS LOCAL DELIVERY

CHOOSE YOUR FABRIC

\$2199

'Beatrice' Upholstered Queen Bed.

Featured in Warwick 'Plush Petal' fabric. Available in a selection of size and fabric options or as a bedhead only.
Also available to order: King Bed \$2699 | Super King Bed \$2999



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Harvey Norman

09

Ends 14/01/24. Each Harvey Norman® store is operated by an independent franchisee. *4 Terms and conditions apply, see page 12 for details. Mattresses, bed linen and accessories shown are not included.

60 MONTHS INTEREST FREE*

Available from **LATITUDE** on participating credit cards*. New customers must apply and be approved.



✓ **NO DEPOSIT**
✓ **NO INTEREST**

- T&Cs, Fees and Charges Apply*
- 60 Monthly Repayments
- Minimum Financed Amount \$1000
- Product Exclusions Apply

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HOT DEAL

\$949

'Kody' Queen Bed.

Contemporary bed with stylish rattan feature on bedhead. Featured in 'Natural'. Also available in 'White'.
Also available to order: King Single Bed \$799 | Double Bed \$899 | King Bed \$1099 | 2-Drawer Bedside Table \$349ea



HOT PRICE

\$999

'Cobar' 2-Drawer Queen Bed.

Shown in a nostalgic Aged Bark stain, the 'Cobar' is perfect for contemporary and traditional interiors alike.
Also available to order: Double Bed \$999 | King Bed \$1299 | 2-Drawer Bedside Table \$299ea



**WE'VE
TAKEN
10% OFF***

NOW ONLY

\$1079

'Harlin' 2-Drawer Queen Bed.

Timeless appeal of Acacia timber with modern curved edges and two practical storage drawers.
Also available to order: 2-Drawer Double Bed \$989 | 2-Drawer King Bed \$1259 | 2-Drawer Bedside Table \$314ea



HOT DEAL

\$1149

'Parklane' Queen Bed.

Crafted from solid Oak, a timeless classic design.
Also available to order: King Bed \$1299 | 4-Drawer Bedside Table \$599ea

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**WE'VE
TAKEN
10% OFF***

NOW ONLY

\$1799

'Bunbury' Queen Bed.

Natural beauty of Marri timber adds rustic charm to your bedroom with the premium 'Bunbury' range.
Also available to order: King Bed \$1979 | 2-Drawer Bedside Table \$494ea



**BONUS
LOCAL DELIVERY**

HOT PRICE

\$2299

'Adamson' Queen Bed.

Crafted with Silvertop Ash timber the 'Adamson' is a contemporary centerpiece for your bedroom.
Also available to order: King Bed \$2599 | Super King Bed \$3399 | 2-Drawer Bedside Table \$1099ea



09 **Harvey Norman**

Ends 14/01/24. Each Harvey Norman® store is operated by an independent franchisee. *1. Available on selected transactions made at independent Harvey Norman® franchisees between 27/12/23 and 29/01/24. Excludes purchases of mobile phones, gaming consoles, gift cards, digital cameras and lenses, hot water system supply & installation, Microsoft Surface Studio products, Apple, Miele and Harvey Norman Customer Direct products. Excludes brands and products that are purchased by customers directly from suppliers at Harvey Norman® franchisee stores. Interest free offer is available to customers who hold a Latitude GO Mastercard or other participating Latitude credit card including Latitude Gem Visa, CreditLine and Buyer's Edge. Total amount is payable by 60 monthly repayments (the exact amount of each monthly repayment is specified in your statement). Monthly account service fee of \$9.95 applies (subject to change). If there is an outstanding balance after the interest free period ends, Latitude customers will be charged interest by Latitude Finance Australia, currently 26.99%.

GATE01Z01MA - V1

PLUS BONUS GIFT CARD* UP TO \$1000 ON INTEREST FREE* PURCHASES

\$100 GIFT CARD when you spend \$1,000+	\$200 GIFT CARD when you spend \$2,000+	\$300 GIFT CARD when you spend \$3,000+	\$400 GIFT CARD when you spend \$4,000+	\$500 GIFT CARD when you spend \$5,000+	\$600 GIFT CARD when you spend \$6,000+	\$700 GIFT CARD when you spend \$7,000+	\$800 GIFT CARD when you spend \$8,000+	\$900 GIFT CARD when you spend \$9,000+	\$1000 GIFT CARD when you spend \$10,000+
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HOT OFFER

\$799

'Roman' Queen Bed

A classic crisp white finish, paired with gorgeous naturally stained top features.
Also available to order: Double Bed \$799 | King Bed \$999
2-Drawer Bedside Table \$399ea



HOT DEAL

\$999

'Bahamas' Queen Bed.

Chic whitewashed pine panels on a high bedhead and matching footend. Complete the look with matching storage pieces.
Also available to order: Double Bed \$999 | King Bed \$1099
2-Drawer Bedside Table \$279ea



GREAT DEAL

\$999

'Southampton' Queen Bed.

A 160cm high bedhead, the crisp, white painted finish of the range is enhanced by carved panelling and classic detailing.
Also available to order:
King Bed \$1199 | 3-Drawer Bedside Table \$579ea



NOW ONLY

\$1079

'Victoria' Queen Bed.

Crisp White finish with traditional detailing. Coordinate the look with matching storage pieces.
Also available to order: Double Bed \$1079 | King Bed \$1439
3-Drawer Bedside Table \$404ea



GREAT DEALS LIMITED TIME ONLY!



BONUS
LOCAL DELIVERY

BARGAIN

\$1399

'Marlow' 2-Drawer Queen Bed.

White painted finish with timber top detail and two storage drawers.
Also available to order: 2-Drawer Double Bed \$1299
2-Drawer King Bed \$1499 | 2-Drawer Bedside Table \$299ea

2 STORAGE
DRAWERS



BONUS
LOCAL DELIVERY

STORAGE DRAWERS

\$1699

'Berlin' 3-Drawer Queen Bed.

Includes LED light and USB charger. Smooth contemporary grey washed finish. Either choose storage drawers or gas-lift storage.
Also available to order: 3-Drawer Double Bed \$1899
3-Drawer King Bed \$2199 | 3-Drawer Bedside Table \$349ea

4 STORAGE
DRAWERS

harveynorman.com.au or call 1300 464 278 for your local store



Products may
require assembly.

Harvey Norman

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per annum (subject to change). Visit www.gomastercard.com.au/interest-free-offers for more information on the provision of credit by Latitude Finance Australia. *2. From 27/12/23 to 29/01/24, customers who purchase products from a Harvey Norman®, Domayne® or Joyce Mayne® franchisee using the Interest Free offer from Latitude Finance Australia (as described above in *1) with a purchase price of \$1,000 or more will be eligible to receive one Harvey Norman®, Domayne® or Joyce Mayne® gift card (Gift Card). Gift cards may be used at any Harvey Norman®, Domayne® or Joyce Mayne® franchisee. The applicable Gift Card value is detailed in the above table. Each Gift Card is issued by Dorni Pty Ltd, expires 36 months from the date of issue and is subject to the Gift Card Terms and Conditions available at www.harveynorman.com.au/gift-cards-terms-and-conditions. *4, *5 Terms and conditions apply, see page 12 for details. Mattresses, bed linen and accessories shown are not included.



Harvey Norman®

TEAM PARTNER



CLEARANCE

**GREAT DEALS
LIMITED
TIME ONLY!**

AMAZING QUILT COVER DESIGNS FROM \$39ea



L'AVENUE

\$39

L'Avenue 'Duncan' Quilt Cover Set - Queen.*6
Also available in double, king or super king sizes.



L'AVENUE

\$49

L'Avenue 'Ashton' Quilt Cover Set - Queen.*6
Also available in double, king or super king sizes.



L'AVENUE

\$59

L'Avenue 'Ellie' Sage Quilt Cover Set - Queen.*6
Also available in double, king or super king sizes and in Clay or Silver.

EVERYDAY NATURAL FABRICS FROM \$79ea



L'AVENUE

\$79

L'Avenue 'Sunkissed' Quilt Cover Set - Queen.*6
Also available in double, king or super king sizes.



L'AVENUE

\$99

L'Avenue 'Tropea' Quilt Cover Set - Queen.*6
Also available in double, king or super king sizes.



L'AVENUE

\$99

L'Avenue 'Palmira' Quilt Cover Set - Queen.*6
Also available in double, king or super king sizes and in Sand.

EVERYDAY NATURAL FABRICS FROM \$79ea



L'AVENUE

\$79

L'Avenue 'Henry' Denim Washed Cotton Quilt Cover Set - Queen.*6
Also available in single, double, king or super king sizes and in Cinnamon, Olive, Rose or Charcoal.



L'AVENUE

\$99

L'Avenue 'Vintage' Sage Organic Cotton Quilt Cover Set - Queen.*6
Also available in single, double, king or super king sizes and in White or Silver.



L'AVENUE

\$139

L'Avenue 'Pure Linen' Quilt Cover Set - Queen.*6
Also available in king or super king sizes and in Silver, Olive or Charcoal.

VISIT HARVEYNORMAN.COM.AU OR CALL 1300 464 278 FOR YOUR LOCAL STORE. Each Harvey Norman® store is operated by an independent franchisee.

- **GEELONG (CORIO)** 420 Princes Hwy 5272 9900
- **WAURN PONDS** 33 Princes Hwy (Homemakers Centre) 5240 6200



9AM - 5PM

Ends 14/01/24. Each Harvey Norman® store is operated by an independent franchisee. The goods described in this advertisement may not be on display or available at each Harvey Norman® Complex, or online if specified as "available in store only". Please call 1300 GO HARVEY (1300 464 278) before attending a Harvey Norman® Complex to enquire whether a franchisee at that complex has the goods on display or available. *3. "Quick delivery" refers to stock availability and subject to delivery schedule in customer's area of residence. Delivery may be affected by availability of items selected and freight delays. Terms and conditions apply, see in store for details. *4. Bonus delivery must be within a 25km radius of the store from which the goods were purchased. Delivery will be arranged for a time convenient to both parties. Available on in store purchases only. Terms and conditions apply. See in store for details. *5. Discounts are off the normal ticketed prices. 10% off already applied to prices shown. *6. Single and king single quilt cover sets each consist of 1x quilt cover and 1x standard pillowcase. Double, queen, king and super king quilt cover sets each consist of 1x quilt cover and 2x standard pillowcases. *7. Bluetooth for compatible Apple and Android devices. Accessories shown are not included.

ABC TV (2)	SEVEN (7)	NINE (9)	TEN (10)	SBS (3)
6.00 Makers Of Modern Australia. (PG, R) 7.00 News. 9.30 Gardening Aust. (R) 10.05 The Princess And The Press. (PG, R) 11.00 Antiques Roadshow. (R) 12.00 News. 1.00 Vera. (M, R) 2.30 Muster Dogs. (PG, R) 3.25 Tenable. (PG, R) 4.10 Antiques Roadshow. (R) 5.10 Love Your Garden. 6.00 Back Roads. (PG, R) 6.30 Hard Quiz. (PG, R) 7.00 ABC News. 7.30 Back Roads. (R) 8.00 Grand Designs Transformations. (New Series) 9.00 Martin Clunes: Islands Of The Pacific. (M) 9.50 Fake Or Fortune? (R) 10.50 Finding Alice. (M, R) 11.35 The Missing Children. (M, R) 1.05 Love Your Garden. (R) 1.50 Tenable. (PG, R) 2.35 Rage. (MA15+) 3.30 Classic Countdown. (PG, R) 4.30 Rosie Batty's One Plus One. (R) 5.00 Makers Of Modern Australia. (PG, R)	6.00 Sunrise. 9.30 Test Cricket: Pre-Game Show. 10.30 Cricket: Third Test. Australia v Pakistan. Day 2. Morning session. From the SCG. 12.30 Test Cricket: The Lunch Break. 1.10 Cricket. Third Test. Australia v Pakistan. Day 2. Afternoon session. 3.10 Test Cricket: Tea Break. 3.30 Cricket. Third Test. Australia v Pakistan. Day 2. Late afternoon session. 6.00 Seven News. 7.00 Cricket. Big Bash League Game 26. Melbourne Renegades v Hobart Hurricanes. 10.30 Seven's Cricket: The Spin. 11.00 MOVIE: Stuber. (MA15+)(M, R) (2019) 1.00 Black-ish. (PG, R) 1.30 Travel Oz. (R) 2.00 Home Shopping. (R) 4.00 NBC Today. 5.00 Seven Early News. 5.30 Sunrise.	6.00 Today. 9.00 Today Extra Summer. (PG) 11.30 9News Morning. 12.00 MOVIE: Love Affair. (R) (2022) 2.00 Pointless. (PG, R) 3.00 Tipping Point. (PG, R) 4.00 9News Afternoon. 5.00 Millionaire Hot Seat. (R) 6.00 9News. 7.00 A Current Affair. 7.30 RBT. (M) 8.30 RPA. (PG, R) 9.30 Children's Hospital. (PG, R) 10.30 Chicago Med. (MA15+) 11.20 Emergency Call. (M, R) 12.10 Tipping Point. (PG, R) 1.05 Pointless. (PG, R) 2.00 GolfBarons. (R) 2.30 Global Shop. (R) 3.00 TV Shop: Home Shopping. (R) 4.00 Believer's Voice Of Victory. (PG) 4.30 A Current Affair. (R) 5.00 9News Early. 5.30 Today.	6.00 Luxury Escapes. (R) 6.30 My Market Kitchen. (R) 7.00 Everyday Gourmet. (PG, R) 7.30 Ent. Tonight. (R) 8.00 Farm To Fork. (R) 8.30 Judge Judy. (PG, R) 9.00 Jamie's Easy Meals For Every Day. (R) 9.30 Neighbours. (PG, R) 10.00 Hungry. (R) 10.30 Luxury Escapes. (PG, R) 11.00 Food Trail South Africa. (R) 11.30 Planet Shapers. (R) 12.00 Bondi Rescue. (PG, R) 1.00 Dr Phil. (PG) 2.00 My Market Kitchen. (R) 2.30 Bold. (PG, R) 3.00 Ent. Tonight. 3.30 Farm To Fork. 4.00 Neighbours. (PG) 4.30 Jamie's Easy Meals For Every Day. (R) 5.00 10 News First. 6.30 The Project. 7.30 Thank God You're Here. (M, R) 8.30 Inspired Unemployed (Impractical) Jokers. (PG, R) 9.00 MOVIE: Mean Girls. (Ma, R) (2004) 11.00 MOVIE: Clueless. (M, R) (1995) 1.00 The Project. 2.00 The Late Show With Stephen Colbert. (PG) 3.00 Home Shopping. (R) 4.30 CBS Mornings.	6.00 DW English News. 6.30 Al Jazeera. 7.00 BBC News At Six. 7.30 France 24 English News. 8.00 DD India News Hour. 9.00 Legacy List With Matt Paxton. 10.05 Paddington Station 24/7. (PG, R) 11.00 Secret Cities. (PG, R) 12.00 BBC News At Ten. 12.30 ABC World News Tonight With David Muir. 1.00 PBS News. 2.00 Underwater Stonehenge. (PG, R) 3.00 Mastermind Aust. (R) 3.40 The Cook Up. (R) 4.10 The Supers. (PG, R) 5.05 Jeopardy! (R) 5.30 Letters And Numbers. (R) 6.00 Mastermind Australia. (R) 6.30 SBS World News. 7.30 Julia Bradbury's Irish Journey. (PG) 8.25 The Real Crown: Inside The House Of Windsor. (PG, R) 9.20 Paul Newman: Always On The Move. (M, R) 10.25 SBS World News Late. 10.55 A Class Apart. (MA15+) 11.45 Mr Mercedes. (MA15+, R) 2.45 Going Places. (R) 3.45 Bamay. (R) 5.00 NHK World English News Morning. 5.30 ANC Philippines The World Tonight.
ABC TV PLUS (22)	7TWO (72)	9GEM (92, 95)	10 BOLD (12)	SBS VICELAND (31)
7.05pm Star Wars: Young Jedi Adventures. (R) 7.20 Bluey. (R) 7.30 Spicks And Specks. (R) 8.00 Would I Lie To You? (PG, R) 8.30 Hard Quiz. (PG, R) 9.00 Gruen. (M, R) 9.40 Penn & Teller: Fool Us. (PG, R) 10.20 Whose Line Is It Anyway? (M, R) 10.45 Bliss. (M, R)	6.30pm Bargain Hunt. (R) The teams head to Oswestry. 7.30 Father Brown. (M, R) An industrialist receives a threatening letter. 8.30 Murdoch Mysteries. (M, R) Running for his life from British Intelligence agents accusing him of murder, Murdoch finds himself with no memory. 11.30 Father Brown. (M, R) An industrialist receives a threatening letter.	11pm Midsomer Murders. (M, R) After two old friends clash over plans to cut down a local forest, their disagreement turns to tragedy when one of their wives is found dead. At first, it appears the woman had committed suicide over news of her infertility but it is not long before Barnaby realises it was murder.	6.30pm JAG. (PG, R) 7.30 Bull. (M, R) Bull assists with a patent lawsuit defence. 8.30 NCIS. (M, R) Abby speaks at a symposium in Mexico. 9.25 NCIS: New Orleans. (M, R) Gregorio goes undercover. 10.20 Evil. (MA15+, R) 11.15 Star Trek: Voyager. (M, R)	6.15pm The Fast History Of. (PG) 6.40 Jeopardy! 7.30 8 Out Of 10 Cats Does Countdown. (M, R) 8.30 Beyond Oak Island. (PG) Matty Blake goes blackwater river diving. 10.10 Guns That Changed The Game. (PG, R) 11.10 Locked Up: Teens Behind Bars. (M, R)
ABC ME (23)	7MATE (73, 74)	9GO! (93, 99)	10 PEACH (11)	SBS MOVIES (32)
7.30pm Shaun The Sheep. (R) 7.35 Space Nova. (R) 8.00 Total DramaRama. (R) 8.25 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. (PG, R) 8.45 Mustangs FC. (R) 9.10 School Of Rock. (R) 9.30 Mythbusters "There's Your Problem!". (PG, R) 9.55 Rage Synth Special. (PG)	6.30pm Pawn Stars. (PG, R) 7.30 Family Guy. (M) 8.00 American Dad! (M) Steve starts a work-study program. 8.30 MOVIE: Land Of The Lost. (PG) (2009) A palaeontologist discovers a space-time vortex. Will Ferrell, Danny McBride. 10.35 Roast Night. (M) (New Series) 11.40 Storage Wars. (PG, R)	11pm MOVIE: Man On A Ledge. (M, R) (2012) As a psychologist tries to reason with an ex-con who is threatening to jump from a Manhattan hotel rooftop, authorities fail to notice the incident is being used to distract them from a major diamond heist. Sam Worthington, Elizabeth Banks, Jamie Bell.	6pm Frasier. (PG, R) 6.30 Neighbours. (PG, R) 7.00 The Big Bang Theory. (PG, R) Sheldon and Amy get some devastating news. 8.30 Two And A Half Men. (M, R) Walden and Alan meet a birth mother who is considering letting them adopt her baby. 11.00 Frasier. (PG, R) 12am Home Shopping. (R)	7.30pm Enigma. (M, R) (2001) A maths genius tries to crack an enemy code. Dougray Scott, Kate Winslet. 9.40 Jane Got A Gun. (MA15+, R) (2015) A woman tries to save her outlaw husband. Natalie Portman, Joel Edgerton. 11.30 Bel Canto. (MA15+, R) (2018) A soprano's concert is interrupted by rebels. Julianne Moore, Ken Watanabe.
ABC NEWS (24)	7FLIX (76)	9LIFE (94)	NITV (34)	SBS FOOD (33)
6pm ABC Evening News. 6.40 If You're Listening. (R) 7.00 ABC National News. 7.30 Compass. (R) 8.00 ABC News Tonight. 8.30 Australian Story. (R) 9.00 ABC Nightly News. 9.30 China Tonight: Summer Special. (PG, R) 10.00 The World.	6.30pm 10 Years Younger In 10 Days. (PG, R) 7.30 First Dates UK. (M) Best friends go on a double date. 8.35 Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA. (M, R) Presented by Gordon Ramsay. 10.35 Gordon, Gino & Fred: American Road Trip. (M, R) 11.35 Hell's Kitchen USA. (M, R)	6pm House Hunters International. (R) 7.00 House Hunters. (R) 7.30 House Hunters Renovation. (R) A couple search for a home in LA. 8.30 Fixer Upper. (PG, R) Chip and Joanna Gaines renovate a home. 9.30 My Lottery Dream Home. (PG) An Indiana couple want a new home. 10.30 Unsellable Houses. (R) 11.30 House Hunters International. (R)	6pm Bamay. (R) 6.40 Coastal Africa. (PG, R) 7.30 Going Places With Ernie Dingo. (R) 8.30 Not Even. 9.00 MOVIE: Desperately Seeking Susan. (M, R) (1985) Rosanna Arquette. 10.50 First Sounds. (R) 11.05 Big Sky Girls. (R) 11.30 Jupurrurla: Man Of Media. (PG, R) 12am Express Yourself. (M, R)	6pm Food Safari Earth. (R) 6.30 Lidia's Kitchen. (PG) 7.00 The Cook Up With Adam Liaw. (PG, R) 7.30 Nigella: The Cook Who Made Me. (R) 8.35 Rick Stein: From Venice To Istanbul. (PG, R) 9.45 Come Dine With Me UK. (PG, R) 10.35 The Cook Up With Adam Liaw. (R)
CLASSIFICATIONS: (PG) Parental Guidance Recommended (M) Mature Audiences (MA15+) Mature Audiences Only (AV15+) Extreme Adult Violence (R) Repeat. Please Note: Programs are correct at the time of print and are subject to change by the networks.				
PREMIERE (CH 401)	GREATS (CH 410)	UKTV (CH 105)	SHOWCASE (CH 112)	DISCOVERY (CH 133)
6.00 Haute Couture. (2021) (M) 7.35 Ali & Ava. (2022) (M) 9.10 After Yang. (2021) (PG) 10.50 A Savage Christmas. (2023) (M) 12.30 David Holmes: The Boy Who Lived. (2023) (M) 2.05 The Machine. (2023) (MA15+) 4.00 Black Adam. (2022) (M) 6.10 Shazam! Fury Of The Gods. (2023) (M) 8.30 Polite Society. (2023) (M) 10.20 R.L.P.D. 2: Rise Of The Damned. (2022) (M) 12.06 Magic Mike's Last Dance. (2023) (M) 2.00 Assassin Club. (2023) (MA15+) 3.50 Ticket To Paradise. (2022) (M) 5.35 Late Programs.	6.00 Boiling Point. (1993) 6.05 The Blues Brothers. (1980) 8.20 Kanadu. (1980) 10.00 The Big Lebowski. (1998) 12.00 Philadelphia. (1993) 2.10 Firefox. (1982) 4.20 In The Line Of Fire. (1993) 6.30 Back To The Future Part III. (1990) 8.30 Blade Runner. (1982) Harrison Ford, Rutger Hauer. 10.30 2001: A Space Odyssey. (1968) 12.50 Born On The Fourth Of July. (1989) Tom Cruise, Kyrle Sedgwick, Frank Whaley 3.15 The Breakfast Club. (1985) Moly Ringwald, Ally Sheedy 4.50 The Godfather Coda. (2020) Al Pacino	6.00 Morning Programs. 9.05 Jonathan Ross. (PG) 10.05 Doc Martin. (M) 11.05 Would I Lie To You? (PG) 11.40 Who Do You Think You Are? (PG) 12.50 Midsomer Murders. (M) 2.55 New Tricks. (M) 4.00 Father Brown. (M) 5.00 QI. (PG) 6.10 Richard Osman's House Of Games Night. (PG) 6.45 Emmerdale. (PG) 7.15 Coronation Street. (PG) 7.50 EastEnders. (PG) 8.30 Prince, Son And Heir: Charles At 70. (PG) 9.40 Dragons' Den. (PG) 10.50 8 Out Of 10 Cats. (M) 12.40 Late Programs.	6.00 Wentworth. (M) 7.00 True Blood. (MA15+) 8.00 Gurb Your Enthusiasm. (M) 9.00 Strike. (MA15+) 10.00 Mare Of Easttown. (M) 11.00 The Couple Next Door. (MA15+) 12.00 What We Do In The Shadows. (M) 6.30 To Be Advised. 7.00 What We Do In The Shadows. (M) 7.30 The Couple Next Door. (MA15+) 8.30 Smothered. (MA15+) 9.00 The Lovers. (MA15+) 9.30 Mildred Pierce. (M) 11.30 Smothered. (MA15+) 12.00 The Lovers. (MA15+) 12.30 Late Programs.	6.00 Morning Programs. 9.15 Dirty Jobs. (PG) 10.10 Deadliest Catch. (M) 11.05 Moonshiners Special. (M) 12.00 Blowing Up History. (PG) 12.55 Naked And Afraid. (M) 1.55 Outback Opal Hunters. (PG) 2.50 Sewer Divers. (M) 3.45 Deadliest Catch. (M) 4.40 Dirty Jobs. (PG) 5.35 Outback Opal Hunters. (PG) 6.35 Hoffman Family Gold. (M) 8.30 Gold Rush: Parker's Trail. (M) 9.30 Aussie Gold Hunters. (PG) 10.25 Reclaimed. (PG) 11.20 Naked And Afraid. (M) 12.15 Late Programs.
FAMILY (CH 403)	ACTION (CH 405)	FOX8 (CH 108)	BBC FIRST (CH 119)	LIFESTYLE (CH 106)
6.00 Christmas With The Kranks. (2004) (PG) 7.05 Dora Saves The Snow Princess. (2008) 8.00 Turbo. (2013) 9.40 The Secret Life Of Pets. (2016) 11.10 The Secret Life Of Pets 2. (2019) (PG) 12.40 Minions: The Rise Of Gru. (2022) (PG) 2.15 The Ant Bully. (2006) 3.50 Paws Of Fury: The Legend Of Hank. (2022) (PG) 5.30 The Munsters. (2022) (PG) 7.30 Harry Potter And The Goblet Of Fire. (2005) (M) 10.10 Jumanji: The Next Level. (2019) (PG) 12.10 Late Programs.	6.00 xXx: State Of The Union. (2005) (M) 7.20 R.L.P.D. (2013) (M) 9.00 Kick-Ass 2. (2013) (MA15+) 10.45 Blade. (1998) (MA15+) 12.50 Blade II. (2002) (MA15+) 2.50 Blade: Trinity. (2004) (MA15+) 4.45 300. (2006) (MA15+) 6.45 Salt. (2010) (M) 8.30 Mission: Impossible. (1996) (M) 10.25 The Man From U.N.C.L.E. (2015) (M) 12.20 S.W.A.T. (2003) (M) 2.15 The Green Hornet. (2011) (M) 4.10 Collateral Damage. (2002) (M) 5.55 Baby Driver. (2017) (MA15+)	6.00 Men In Black. (PG) 6.30 The Great North. (PG) 7.00 Taskmaster. (M) 9.00 Rick And Morty. (MA15+) 9.30 Entourage. (MA15+) 10.30 Two And A Half Men. (PG) 12.00 Guessable. (M) 1.00 Taskmaster. (M) 3.00 Rick And Morty. (MA15+) 3.30 Whose Line Is It Anyway? (PG) 4.00 Two And A Half Men. (PG) 5.30 Entourage. (MA15+) 6.30 Taskmaster. (M) 8.30 Make You Laugh Out Loud. (PG) 9.30 Two And A Half Men. (PG) 11.00 Entourage. (MA15+) 12.00 Late Programs.	6.00 The Fall. (MA15+) 6.55 Silent Witness. (M) 8.00 Death In Paradise. (M) 9.05 Unforgotten. (MA15+) 10.00 Call The Midwife. (PG) 11.05 Close To Me. (M) 12.00 The Catch. (M) 1.50 The Control Room. (M) 2.55 Silent Witness. (M) 4.05 Death In Paradise. (M) 5.15 Unforgotten. (M) 6.15 Call The Midwife. (M) 7.25 Better. (MA15+) 8.30 Death In Paradise Christmas Special 2023. (PG) 10.10 The Bay. (M) 11.05 Death In Paradise. (M) 12.05 Unforgotten. (M) 12.50 Silent Witness. (M) 1.50 Late Programs.	6.00 Antiques Roadshow. 7.10 Bargain Hunt. 8.05 Antiques Road Trip. 9.00 Location, Location, Location. 11.00 GB Sewing Bee. 12.10 Selling Houses Aust. 1.15 Escape To The Country. 2.10 Antiques Roadshow. 3.20 Bargain Hunt. 4.15 Better Homes. 5.30 Chateau D'IY. 6.30 999: On The Front Line. (M) 7.30 Selling Houses Aust. 8.30 Celebrity Sewing Bee Festive Specials. 9.40 Stitching For Britain. 10.50 Escape To The Country. 11.45 24 Hours In Emergency. (M) 12.40 Late Programs.

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STARS

OSCAR CAINER
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Today, as Mars (the power planet) moves into earthy Capricorn, it gears up to create a talent triangle. This formation involves Mars and Jupiter working in harmony, encouraged by the cosmic teacher, Saturn. Together, they paint a picture of a growing confidence in our ability to turn ideas into progress. But we can't sit back and just hope for the best. The more enthusiasm we apply to our work, the better, and the faster the results of our efforts will be seen.

ARIES MAR 21-APR 20

There's no point in me telling you that today is the first day of the rest of your life. You're very familiar with the expression. You know that even though it might feel similar to yesterday (and tomorrow), it's not. Which emphasises the value of today's forecast. The new year is under way and your ruler, Mars, is playing a key role in the exciting cosmic outlook. You have the freedom to transform what you want in your world. Why not choose today to be the day to start turning your life into what you want it to be?

LEO JUL 24-AUG 23

Before you can set out on the high-seas adventure of 2024, you need to get some work done on your boat. For now, you're in a safe harbour getting on with some rather dull jobs. It's easy to think of other things to do (that would be much more fun), but the tasks you need to complete aren't as tedious as you think. Nor are they going to take long to finish. If you look towards the horizon, you'll get a feel for the opportunities ahead. Preparations you're doing now will enable you to sail out and seize them.

SAGITTARIUS NOV 23-DEC 21

The start of 2024 is a bit like one of those complicated jigsaws. You don't seem to have an image of what it will look like once it's complete. In fact, you're not even sure you've got all the pieces. You're managing to fit some parts together, but they won't join up into a cohesive picture. It's frustrating. Yet with power planet Mars moving into earthy Capricorn, you'll find it easier to concentrate. If you stay motivated, you'll soon find a way to put everything together in a way that makes perfect sense.

TAURUS APR 21-MAY 21

Why do we think being stubborn is wrong? I think it's a quality that needs to be appreciated. So many people give up at the first obstacle, or change their minds at the drop of a hat. Thank goodness for Taurus. You're not afraid to stand up for your beliefs. Right now though, it's worth questioning if this could be a time when a compromise would be more effective. A small concession could have positive effects today (and if needed, you can always go back to your original stance).

VIRGO AUG 24-SEP 23

It's all a matter of perspective. Depending on how we feel, and what we want to see, we view the situations we're dealing with very differently. When we're optimistic, we can find silver linings, even in difficult scenarios. But when we're not, it's as if we're wearing dark shades, which give everything a gloomy look. Today, as dynamic Mars enters earthy Capricorn, it brings the energy to fan a glimmer of hope into a realistic aspiration. With just a simple change of attitude, you can take steps to make your future brighter.

CAPRICORN DEC 22-JAN 20

Dynamic Mars enters your sign today, and as 2024 progresses, you'll feel increasingly aware that the sky has your best interests at heart. The cosmic support you're receiving will be reflected by the opportunities coming your way. If you're not yet feeling galvanised into action, you don't have long to wait. Meanwhile, try focusing on the potential available to you today. Even if it doesn't feel like much, it hides a small treasure, and with the right attitude, you can encourage it to grow into something valuable.

GEMINI MAY 22-JUN 22

Questions always pop up at the start of a new year. What should you be doing with your life? What do you need to feel fulfilled and happy? These kinds of ponderings are tricky as they can throw us into a quagmire of self-doubt. Does anyone feel successful all the time? I doubt it. The best strategy to follow is to be confident that whatever you're doing right now, and wherever you're doing it, it's the right thing to be doing. With this attitude any doubts will disappear and you'll be on the path to progress.

LIBRA SEP 24-OCT 23

It's astonishing how we sometimes find ourselves doing the opposite of what we know we should do. We step on the brake (rather than the accelerator). Or we say no to something we ought to say yes to. It's easy, with hindsight, to see we'd have been better off following a different course. Yet looking back with regret is never helpful. If you want to maximise the opportunities 2024 brings your way, you just need to forgive yourself and move on. With a clear conscience, you'll be unstoppable.

AQUARIUS JAN 21-FEB 19

There's no denying the fact that you're moving into the future. The new year stretches ahead of you like a blank canvas of possibilities. I hope you're ready, because there's no going back. If you're regretting a recent choice which left you feeling uncomfortable, as you move deeper into the new year you'll grow more at ease with it. Deep down, you're growing more confident you're on the right track. Today, as Mars moves into your neighbouring sign, even tentative steps forwards will take you further than you think.

CANCER JUN 23-JUL 23

You don't usually struggle to articulate your ideas. So, to find yourself unable to say what's in your heart is making you uneasy. You're worried that if you speak out, you'll cause an upset. You're probably right, yet your instincts are spot on and you're right to think something needs to be discussed. Be as diplomatic as you can be today (but don't be afraid to be bold). You've got the insight and skills to be able to talk about the elephant in the room. Once it's in the open, everyone will be relieved, and able to move on.

SCORPIO OCT 24-NOV 22

How badly do you want what you want? Hmm... Instead of how badly, maybe we should use more positive language. How deeply maybe? What's important, is that you remember you don't need to focus on one thing to the detriment of everything else. The start of 2024 is about aspiring to achieve your deepest desire. You need to be dedicated (even when the road ahead isn't smooth), but stay open-minded enough to be able to adapt your approach. The cosmos helps you find the right balance today.

PISCES FEB 20-MAR 20

We talk about there being no time like the present. But it's hard to pinpoint when the present actually is. It was certainly a different present when the saying originated more than 450 years ago! Maybe you're better off going along with whatever 2024 brings your way, and trust that you'll recognise the time to instigate change when it appears? On second thoughts, don't do that. If you're meant to wait, the cosmos will create distractions, but if there are none of those around today, seize the moment.

JUMBO CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 Guide (5)
4 Home turf (8,6)
11 Mental representation (5)
14 Deadly (5)
15 Opening (11)
16 Contrary (8)
19 Provide with nourishment (7)
20 Identify (5)
21 Excite pleasurably (9)
24 Immunise (9)
26 Rough drawing (6)
27 Suave (6)
31 Paris railway (5)
32 Sunroom (8)
34 Surgical procedures (10)
38 Goes up (7)
39 Stringed instrument (6)
40 Banished (6)
41 Passport endorsement (4)
42 Long eventful journey (7)
45 Stand-in (10)
50 Fish, shellfish etc (7)
54 Off (4)

- 55 Dives (6)
56 Pointers (6)
57 Crane (7)
60 Soured, resentful (10)
61 Cherish (8)
62 Ropering (5)
65 Wipe off (6)
66 American railway freight wagon (6)
67 Disbelieving (9)
72 Sealed transparent container for plants (9)
73 Cultivates (5)
74 Freewheeled (7)
79 Maritime (8)
80 Oil country (5,6)
81 System of beliefs (5)
82 Influenced decisively (5)
83 Slave-driver (4,10)
84 Electric discharge (5)

DOWN

- 2 Beverage holder (6)
3 Strictly correct (5)
5 Kind (4)
6 Illuminated at night (7)
7 Whole (6)
8 Saucer-like bell (4)
9 Shopkeeper (8)
10 Resides (6)
11 Long-standing, established (10)
12 Unit of area (4)
13 Raise (7)
17 Fall headlong (5)
18 Field of study (10)
22 Eavesdropper (5)
23 Golden-coloured horse (8)
25 Stuff (7)
26 Japanese warrior (7)
28 Discontinued (6)
29 Gun-aiming aids (6)
30 Propagates (6)
33 Farewell (5)
35 Defensive effort (5)
36 Inactive (4)
37 South American country (4)
42 Speech-make (5)

- 43 Annual (8)
44 Showed tiredness (6)
45 Sports ground display (10)
46 Low singing voice (4)
47 Farm vehicle (7)
48 Objective (6)
49 Settlements (5)
51 Pitcher (4)
52 Recipe (7)
53 Exotic flower (6)
58 Astonishing (10)
59 Burst (5)
63 Tenant (8)
64 Fairway turf piece (5)
65 Nest egg (7)
68 Circle-drawing instrument (7)
69 Semonise (6)
70 Fire-bomb liquid (6)
71 Thin covering (6)
75 Undress (5)
76 Dancer's skirt (4)
77 Says further (4)
78 Pleasant (4)

WORDFILL Fit the words into the grid to create a finished crossword

3 LETTERS

AIR
AWL
BAA
CAP
EGO
INN
LAP
LAY
NUT
OIL
PLY
WAN

DENT

EMIR
EVEN
EVES
GAVE
HOUR
LAME
LEVY
MAMA
MASH
MEMO
MIEN
MOWS

ORAL

RACY

ROLE

ROOT

SAIL

SENT

TEST

ULNA

WISP

YODEL

6 LETTERS

ALPACA

CYGNET

LAGGED

SAHARA

COALMINE

DEMOCRAT

EPIPHANY

MARATHON

NAMELESS

ROSEMARY

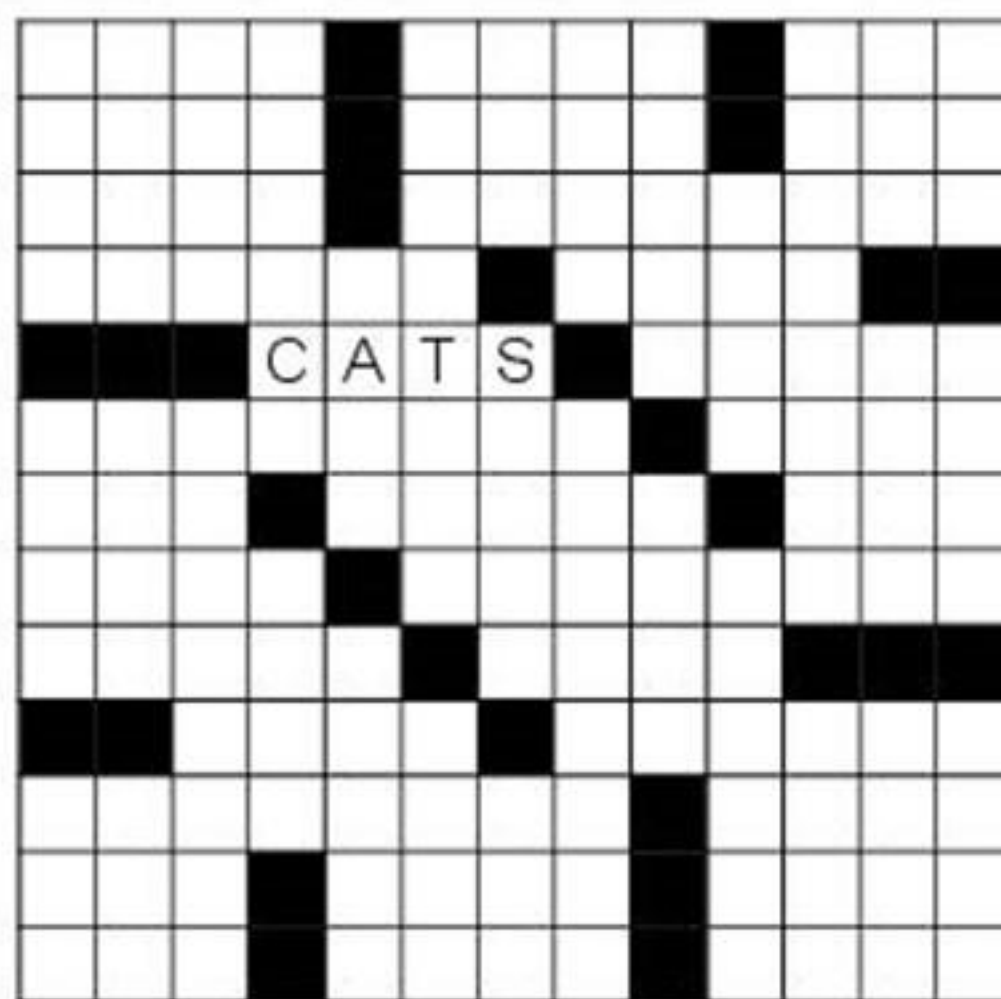
8 LETTERS

ABATTOIR

BLEACHED



Yesterday's
solution

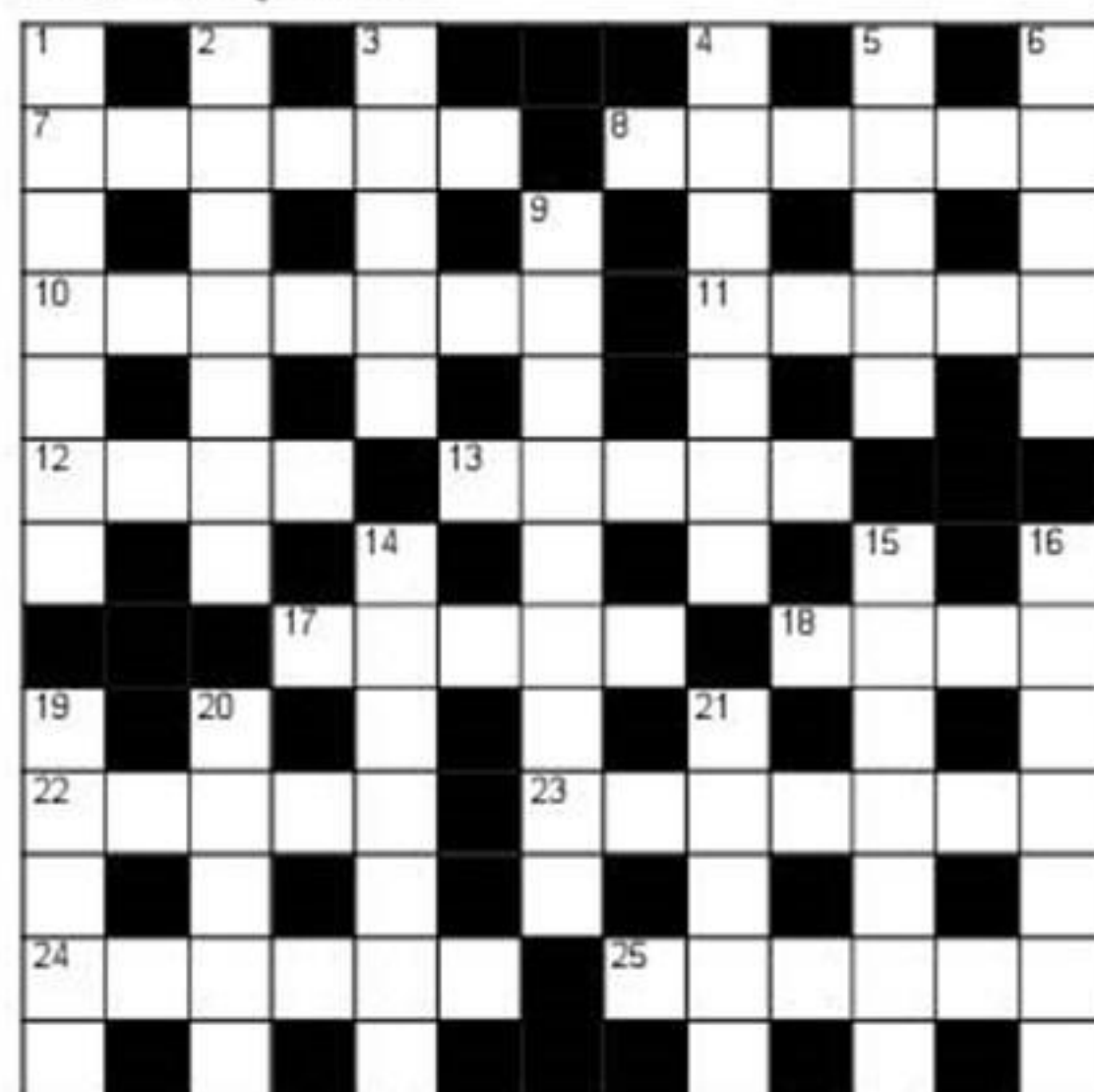


Yesterday

ACROSS: 1 Cavalry, 4 Talk turkey, 9 Cabaret, 13 Upon, 14 Tarned, 15 Inland, 16 Rectify, 19 Eyewitness, 20 Outdated, 21 Coach, 24 Backer, 25 Steady, 27 Apologise, 32 Assassin, 33 Spread, 34 Bicycle, 38 Anaconda, 39 Oldest, 40 Eyes, 41 Auger, 42 Tits, 45 The happy couple, 52 Agate, 55 Scent, 56 Peer, 57 Palace, 58 Problems, 61 Starred, 62 Models, 63 Sorcerer, 66 Greyhound, 68 Hooves, 69 Slage, 73 Shaft, 74 Progress, 76 Adroitness, 81 Obesity, 82 Safari, 83 Attain, 84 Pair, 85 Failure, 86 Underneath, 87 Robbery.

DOWN: 1 Crude, 2 Violence, 3 Years, 4 Tunes, 5 Lids, 6 Trilogy, 7 Relate, 8 Erica, 10 Axes, 11 Actions, 12 Effect, 17 Dimensions, 18 Feels, 22 Magnolia, 23 Again, 24 Blatant, 26 Test, 28 Plateau, 29 Bandit, 30 Arctic, 31 Client, 33 Sheep, 35 Young, 36 Hall, 37 Well, 43 Inlet, 44 Terror, 46 Head, 47 Harpoon, 48 Pepper, 49 Yoks, 50 Occasion, 51 Earned, 52 Abbreviate, 53 Ape, 54 Essence, 59 Kenya, 60 Free, 64 Board, 65 Namesake, 67 Refusal, 68 Hessian, 70 Phobia, 71 Debate, 72 Copier, 75 Grain, 77 Ditch, 78 Spray, 79 Stir, 80 Saga.

13x13 QUICK



- Across**
 7. Rescind (6)
 8. Boat dock (6)
 10. Genuine (7)
 11. Church payment (5)
 12. Loan (4)
 13. Repaired (5)
 17. Place of safety (5)
 18. Weathercock (4)
 22. Wanders (5)
 23. Admit to wrongdoing (7)
 24. Metal pin (5)
 25. Quagmire (6)
- Down**
 1. Grapple (7)
 2. Aperture (7)
 3. Enthusiastic (5)
 4. Poisonous snake (7)
 5. Humorous (5)
 6. Weary (5)
 9. Reserve, taciturnity (9)
 14. Wailing spirit (7)
 15. Sideways (7)
 16. Persevere (7)
 19. Energetic, lively (5)
 20. Renowned (5)
 21. Irritate (5)

Yesterday

Across: 6. Janitor 7. Inter 9. Led 10. Vehemence 12. Double-edged 15. Non-existent 17. Skew-whiff 19. Can 21. Puree 22. Cadaver.
Down: 1. Matey 2. Aid 3. Role 4. Unbending 5. Teacher 8. Repeat 11. Go-between 13. Blithe 14. Lookout 16. Cagey 18. Feat 20. Bad.

5x5



Insert the missing letters to make five words reading across and five reading down.

Note: more than one solution may be possible

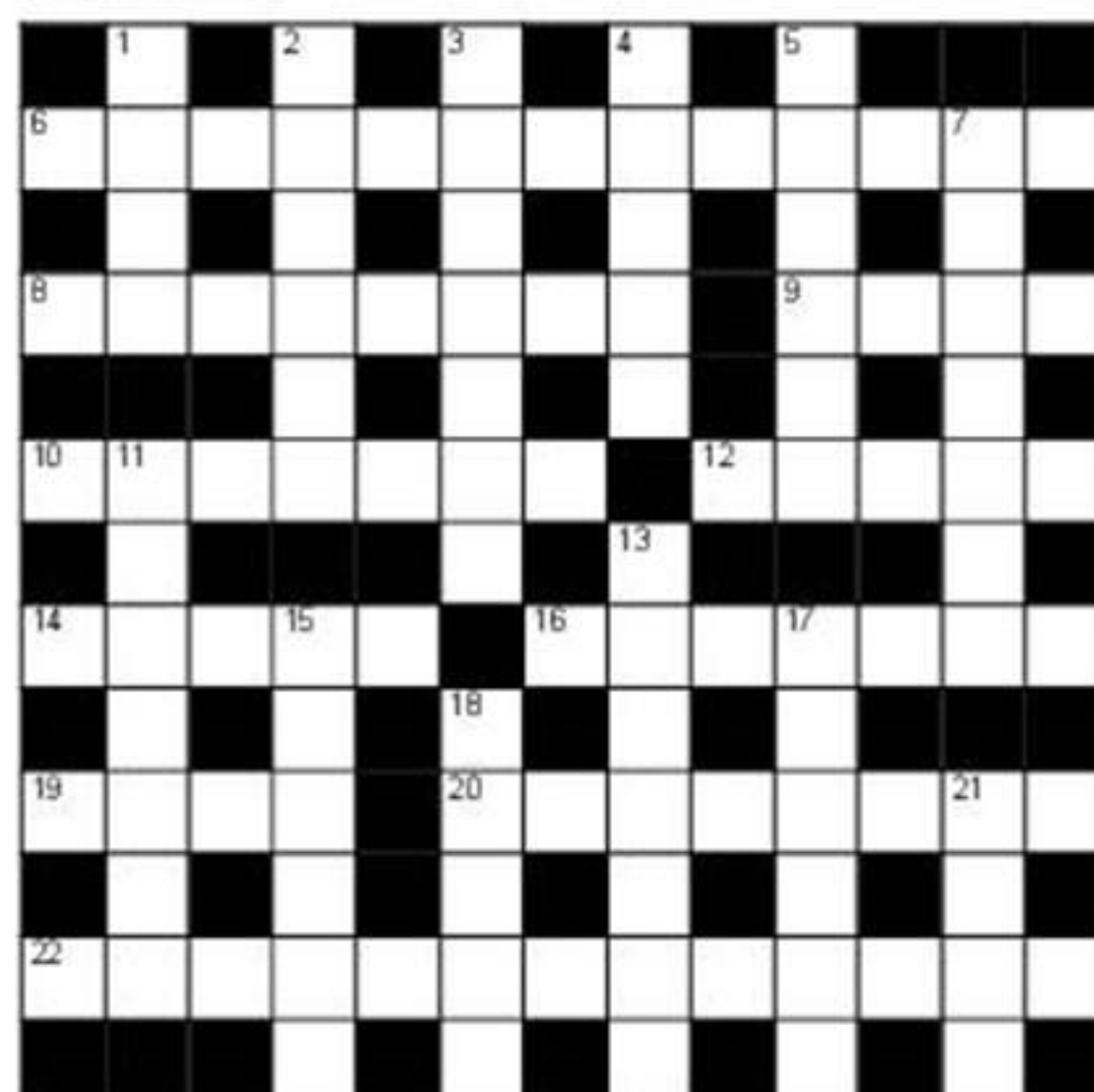
Yesterday



Yesterday

Across: 1. Clothes pegs, 9. Exterminating, 10. Hex, 11. Fidgeter, 14. Cayman, 15. Vestal, 18. Document, 20. I Do, 23. Tear strips off, 24. Cranberries.
Down: 2. Lottery, 3. Turk, 4. Elixir, 5. Playgoer, 6. Grist, 7. Get, 8. Eggroll, 12. Acidity, 13. Parmesan, 16. Tadpole, 17. Unfree, 19. Chair, 21. Spur, 22. Off.

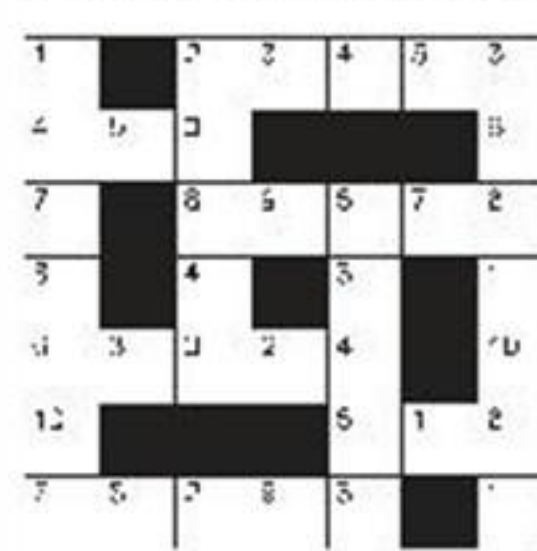
CRYPTIC



- Across**
 6. Decorating the dining room furniture in the bedroom (8-5)
 8. Sounds like the social media people are for the birds (8)
 9. If it is given, a lot more is taken (4)
 10. Suffocate Bob's parent (7)
 12. Spurious way to treat urbanologist not on trial (5)
 14. Muck out rooms Los Hermanos can provide (5)
 16. Amazon and asters, Nile and nasturtiums e.g. (7)
 19. Sidle like 9ac (4)
 20. Reading matter found in the arsenal (8)
 22. He will really get stuck into his occupation (13)
- Down**
 1. Second tier could be high on the hill (4)
 2. Agree to climb, we hear (6)
 3. Result of a food fight when drunk? (3-4)
 4. Rent land out with some Sarcophagi stands (5)
 5. Coins a changeable item in this place (6)
 7. Blats out racquet balls with varnish (7)
 11. 1000 docile but tuneless if stirred up (7)
 13. There is a glow in by the Londoner's native land (7)
 15. Some polyp eels turn up with, makes them tired ... (6)
 17. ... and ready for a spell or two (6)
 18. Staff in short commercial change (5)
 21. Winning margin could smell a rat (4)

CLUELESS CROSSWORD

4/1



Numbers have been substituted for letters. Use the letter(s) given to work out the rest of the puzzle.

Yesterday



3 = N

WordWheel



Insert the missing letter to make an eight-letter word reading either clockwise or anticlockwise.

Yesterday: PERMEATE

Vocabularian

Choose the correct definition

Pedagogue

- a) Teacher
 b) Giant statue
 c) Dictator

Soubriquet

- a) Small sum of money
 b) Nickname
 c) Insult

Yesterday

Gouache: watercolour
Barrique: wine barrel

TARGET

How many words of four letters or more can you make? Each letter must be used only once and all words must contain the centre letter. There is at least one nine-letter word.

No words starting with a capital are allowed, no plurals ending in s unless the word is also a verb, e.g. he burns with anger. Good 10 Very Good 15 Excellent 21+



SUDOKU

Fill the grid so that every column, every row and each 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9.



EASY



MEDIUM



HARD

Yesterday's sudoku solutions



EASY



MEDIUM



HARD

WORDBUILDER

How many words of three or more letters, including plurals, can you make from the six letters, using each only once?

No words beginning with a capital are allowed. There's at least one six-letter word.

Good 11 Very Good 15 Excellent 19



Yesterday's 11x11 quick

Across: 6. Fumigating, 8. Trend, 10. Abode, 13. Absenteeism, 14. Faded, 17. Shown, 19. Substitute.

Down: 1. Luge, 2. Mind, 3. Lava, 4. Silo, 5. Agreement, 7. Steadfast, 9. Niece, 11. Beech, 12. Ate, 15. Debt, 16. Date, 17. Sate, 18. Oats.

11x11 QUICK



- Across**
 1. Withered, reduced in size (8)
 6. Probability (4)
 7. Military pageant (6)
 9. Last (5)
 11. Mark on cattle (5)
 12. Wam (5)
 13. Undecorated (5)
 16. Hire (6)
 18. Knock senseless (4)
 19. Trounces (anag) (8)
- Down**
 1. Winter crystal (9)
 2. French sculptor (5)
 3. Flying device (4)
 4. Without affectation (7)
 5. Muck (3)
 8. Authoritative order (9)
 10. Paint type (7)
 14. In search of (5)
 15. Church song (4)
 17. Encountered (3)

GIANT CROSSWORD

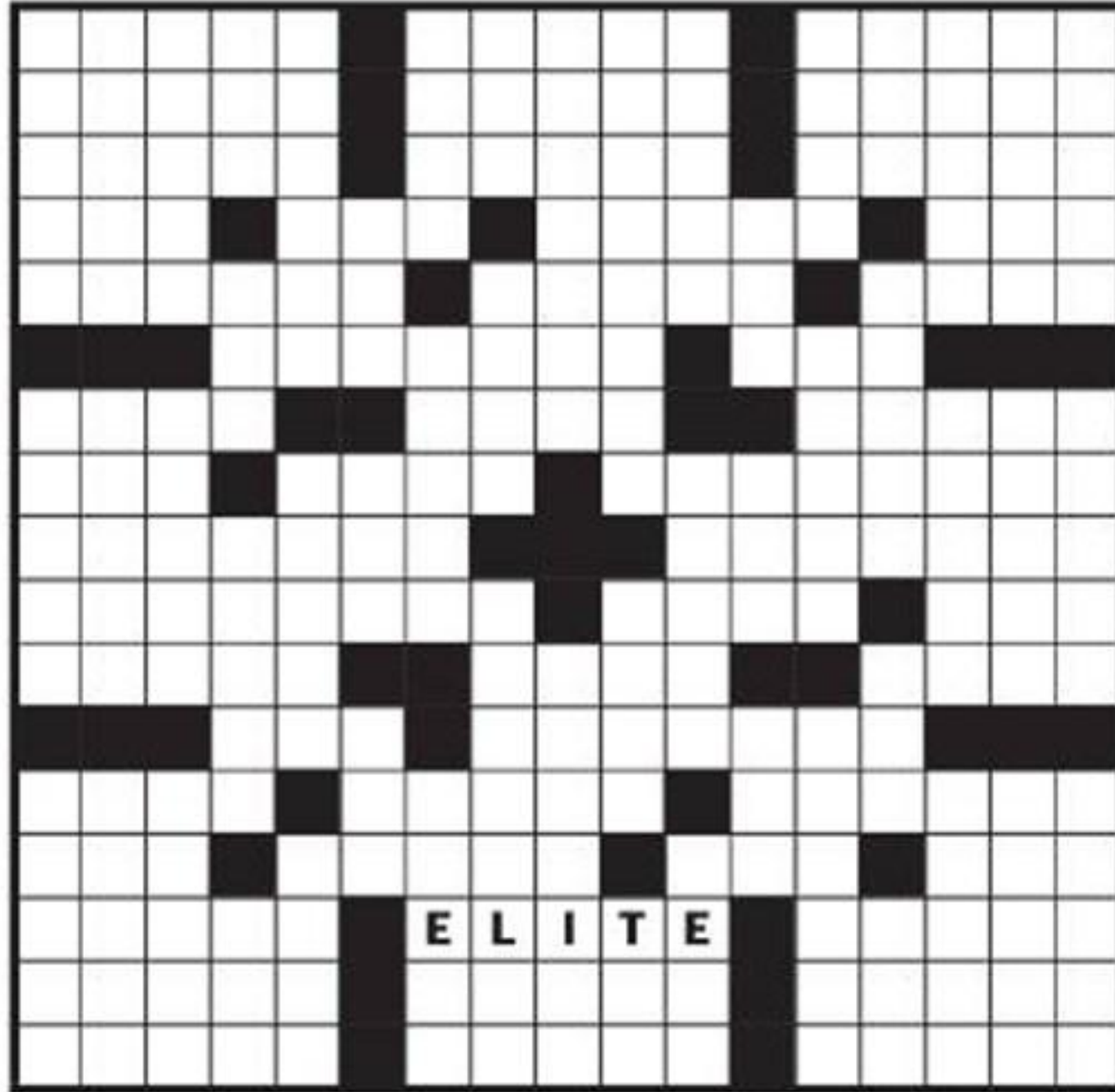
[illegible]

58 Having a pH greater than 7 (8)
59 Small shoulder-bag (7)
60 Casual search (6)
61 Vessel in which to grind spices (6)
65 Magnetic tape recorder (1,1,1)
69 Egg of louse (3)
71 Intersected (3)

CATE01201M4_V1

holiday challenge

WORDFILL



6 LETTERS

DERAIL
ENCAMP
HERNIA
INSIDE

7 LETTERS

GALLANT
HINTING
MAGENTA
MARKING
ROLLING
TOPSPIN

8 LETTERS

DETAILED
DOORSTOP
ORIENTED
PALATIAL

3 LETTERS

ACE
AFL
AGE
ALA
AND
ANY
ASP
ENT
ERA
GAR
GAS
GEM
HOE
ILL
INC
IRE
LAS
NBA
NIT
PEA
RAW
SHE
TEE
YEA

IONA
MARE
MEAD
MUST
PASS
POPE
POST
SAME
SARA

INDIE
IRATE
KENYA
LABEL
LANCE
LARGE
LATHE
LLAMA
LOGOS
MAHDI
MAILS

5 LETTERS

ADAGE
AGATE
ALARM
AMASS
AMONG
APRIL
ARRAS
ASSAM
BINGO
CRETE
DATES
EATEN
EDGES
ELITE
ENDOW
ENTER
EWERS
FLAGS
GRANT
HINGE
IDAHO

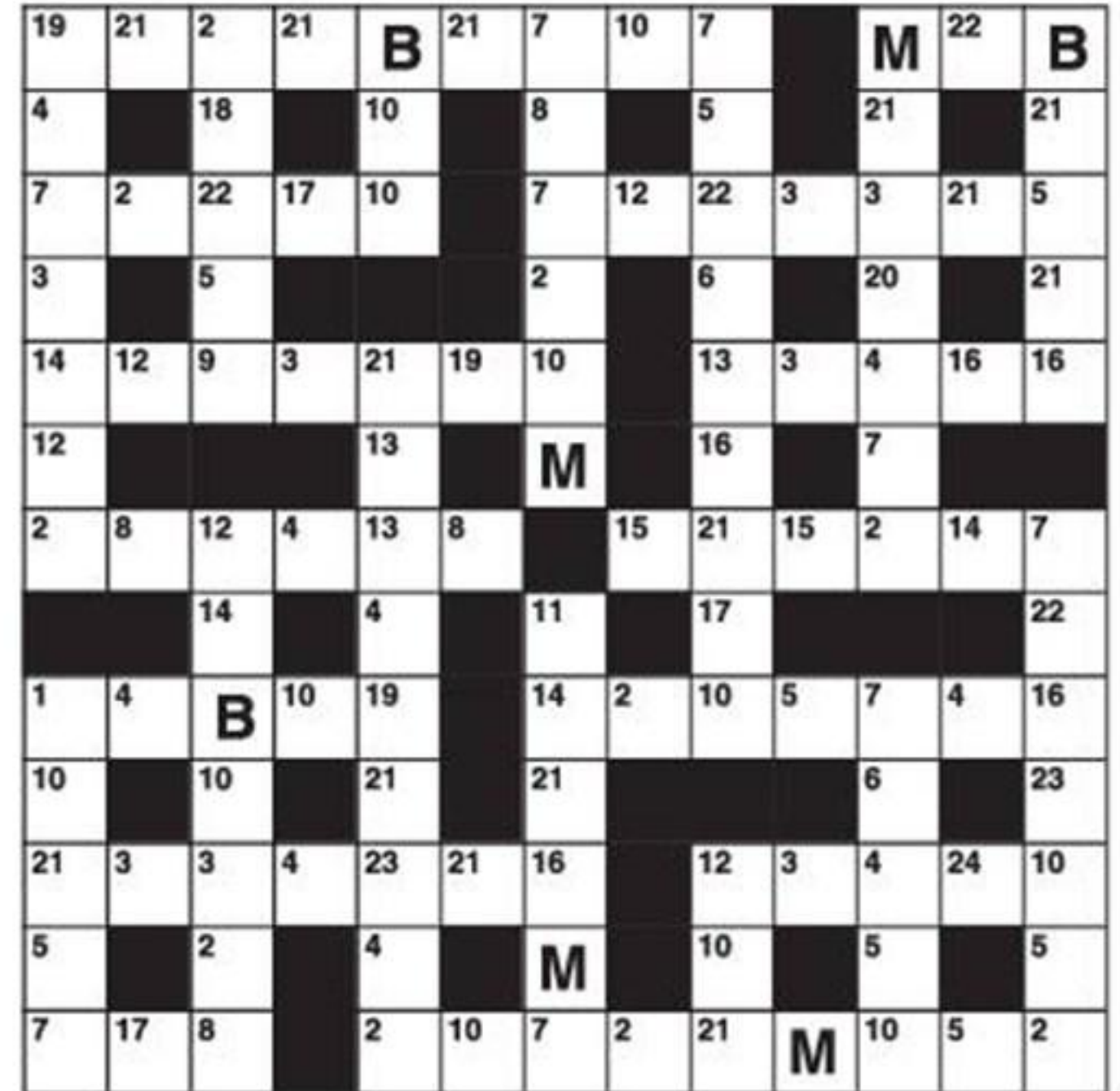
MAMBO
MARIO
MATER
MISER
PLATE
PLEAD
PLUSH
PRESS
REAMS
SAMOA
SCALE
SIGMA
SWEET
SYNOD
TENET
TRIED
UNION
UTTER

4 LETTERS

ARGO
ATOM
EROS
GETS
HERE

CODEWORD

Each number corresponds to a letter. Can you crack the code?



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

WORD FIND

The leftover letters will spell out a secret message.

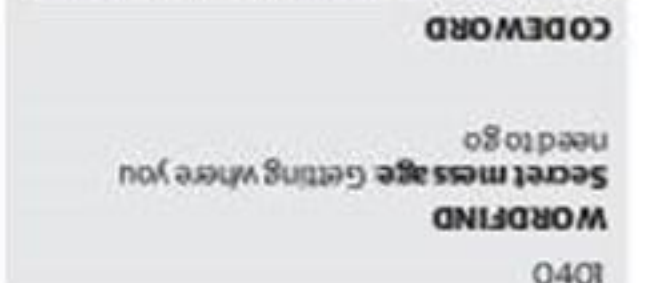


Secret message:

AEROPLANE
BARGE
BICYCLE
BLIMP
CABLECAR
HOVERCRAFT
LOCOMOTIVE
MONORAIL
MOTORCYCLE
SAILBOAT
STEAMBOAT
SUBMARINE



SOLUTIONS



HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW... LISA KUDROW

1. Lisa Kudrow made an early screen appearance in which sitcom?

- A. Family Ties
- B. ALF
- C. Married... With Children
- D. Cheers

2. What language does Kudrow speak fluently?

- A. Italian
- B. Spanish
- C. French
- D. German

3. Kudrow was cast but then replaced before the pilot of which long-running series?

- A. Seinfeld
- B. Frasier
- C. Home Improvement
- D. The Nanny

4. Which series did Kudrow win an Emmy Award for?

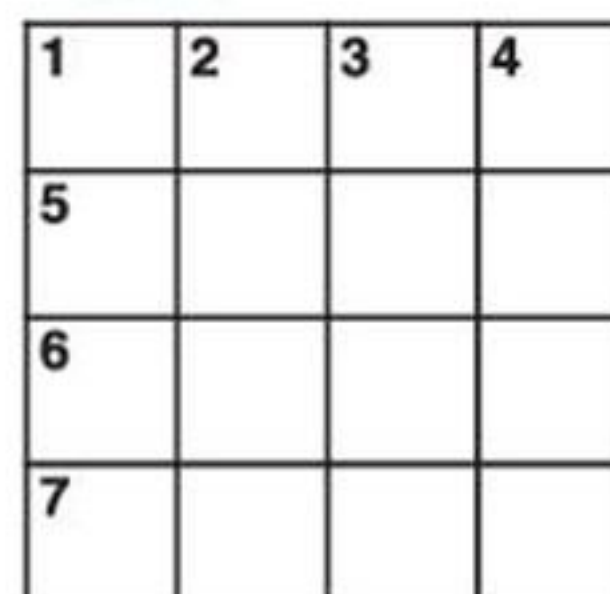
- A. Who Do You Think You Are?
- B. Web Therapy
- C. The Comeback
- D. Friends

5. What breed is Honey, the dog she voices in Paramount+ animated series HouseBroken?

- A. Poodle
- B. Chihuahua
- C. Shih Tzu
- D. Schnauzer



4x4



ACROSS

- 1 Homed animal
- 5 Skilful
- 6 Fail
- 7 Long period of time

DOWN

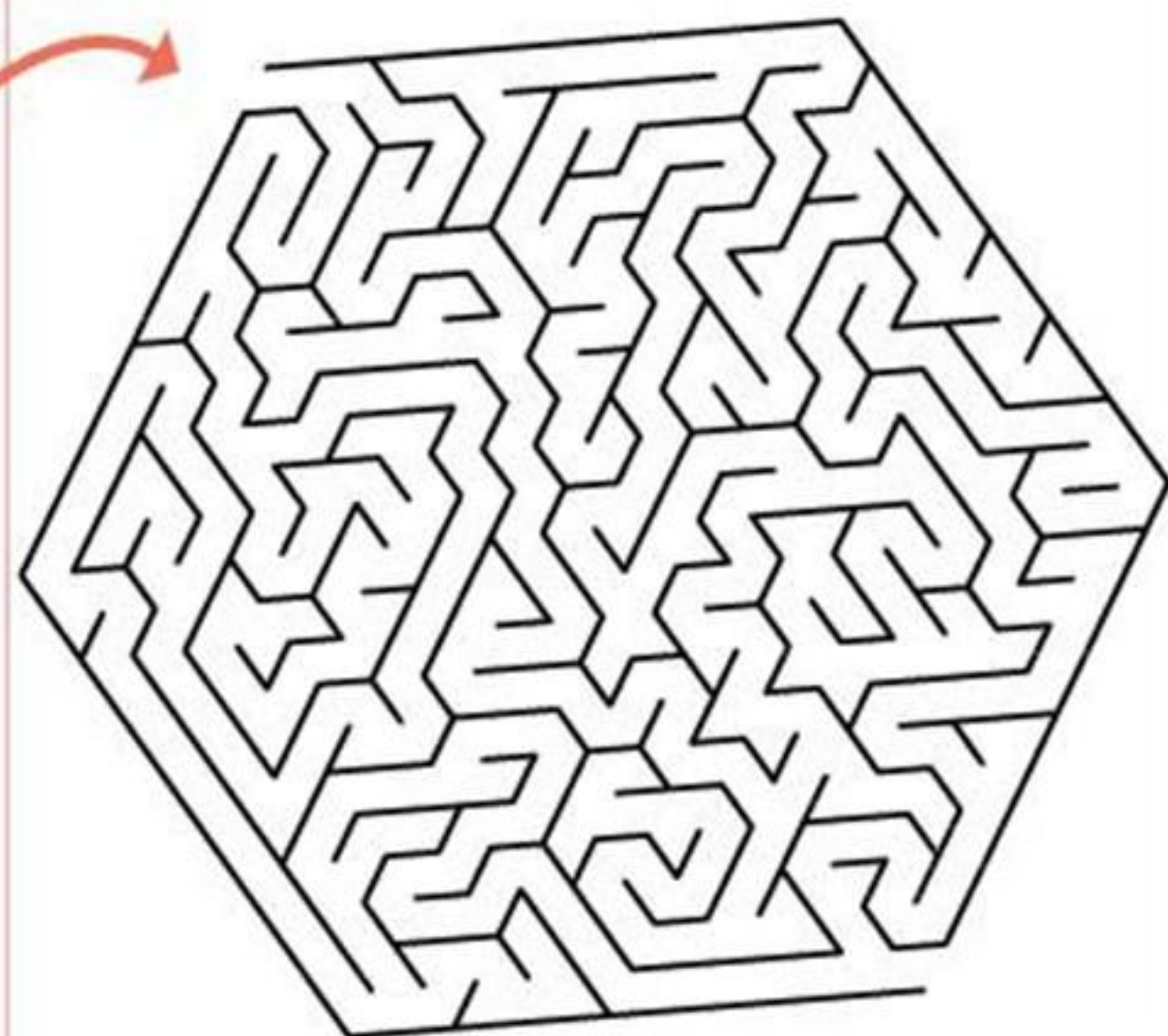
- 1 Celebration
- 2 Musical instrument
- 3 As well
- 4 Youth

kids activity corner



maze

Can you find your way through the maze?

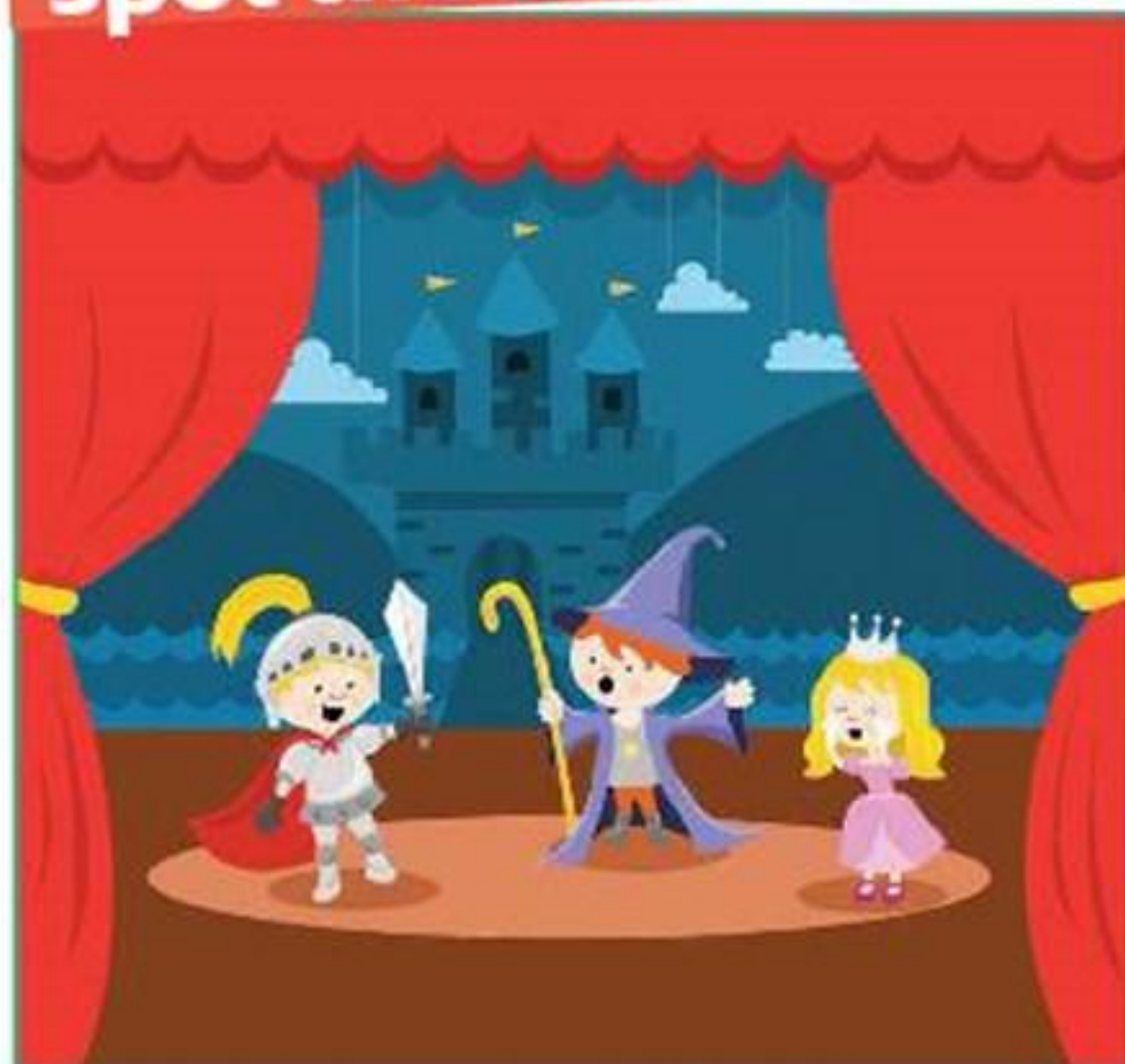


EXIT

colour me in!

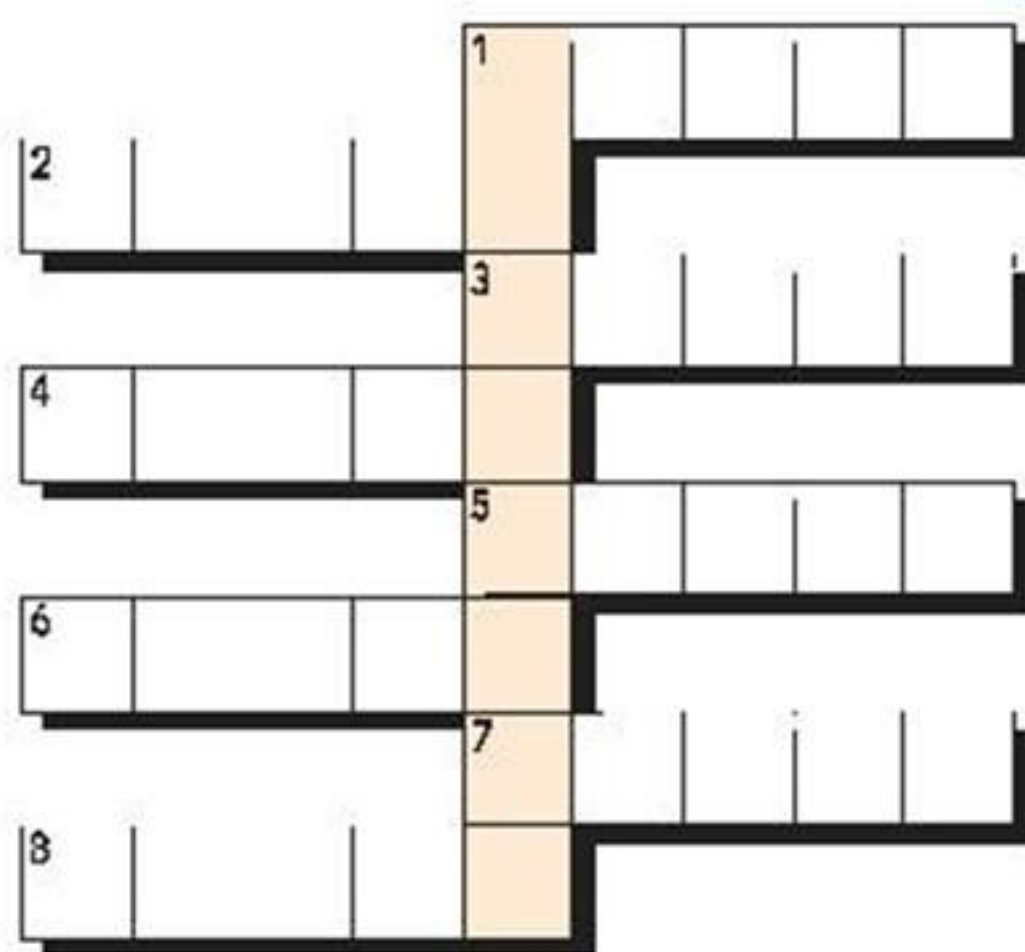


spot the difference



answers: 1. Added cloud, 2. Castle flags, 3. Waves, 4. Crown, 5. Shoes

junior crossword



- 1 A country in Asia
- 2 The main character in *The Lion King*
- 3 Book
- 4 The glaze on top of a cake
- 5 A fruit
- 6 A striped big cat
- 7 Water between countries
- 8 A greeting

ANSWERS: 1. Korea 2. Simba 3. Simba 4. novel 5. Icing 6. apple 7. tiger 8. ocean 9. hello (KANGAROO)

kids' quiz

1. H₂O is the chemical formula for what substance?
2. Where did the 2020 Summer Olympics take place?
3. Who released the EP *The Kids Are Coming* in 2021?
4. What animal is Abu in *Aladdin*?
5. What sport takes place in a velodrome?
6. What food makes up around 99 per cent of a giant panda's diet?
7. Which Australian children's author wrote *Where is the Green Sheep*?
8. Who was the first astronaut (pictured) to walk on the moon?
9. Which dog has a very low tum in the *Hairy Maclary* books?
10. How many players are on the field during a cricket match?



ANSWERS: 1. Water 2. Tokyo 3. Drake 4. Monkey 5. Cycling 6. Bamboo 7. Marmite 8. Neil Armstrong 9. Schnitzel 10. 11 fielding and two batting



SCOOP

ADDY NEWSHOUND

SCOOP SPONSORS

OZ TENPIN bowling

COLOUR-IN TIME



OZ TENPIN bowling

OZ TENPIN GEELONG
Rocket Ship Birthday Winner

Happy Birthday!

Ella Long from Leopold will be celebrating a birthday on Monday.

Congratulations Ella, you have won a fantastic Bowl Session for yourself and five friends, courtesy of Geelong Bowling Lanes, including one game and shoe hire for all.

*To claim your prize, please have your parent or guardian present a copy of this page and photo identification to the Geelong Advertiser Office, 126 Little Malop St, Geelong. Office hours are 10am - 2pm, Mon, Wed and Thu. Prizes to be collected within three weeks of publication.

Today
Mitchell Telfer,
London Mathews,
William Smith,
Pippa Howley.Tomorrow
Joshua Flowers,
Sarah Grant,
Harry Johnson,
Brax Rosewame.Sunday
Blade Brown,
Chester Morrissey,
Brodie Neivandt,
Savannah Turner.Monday
Scarlett-Rose Wickers,
Ella Long.Tuesday
Will Hilton,
Jacob Simic,
Sam Rutherford.Wednesday
Willow Houston,
Leila Chapman,
Liam Cameron.

From: Bluey at the Beach, a colouring book, Puffin, RRP \$6



Q. What did the picture do to end up in jail?

A. Nothing. He was framed!

Q. What did the husband pen say to the wife pen?

A. You're always write.

Q. What is a robot's favorite snack?

A. Computer chips.

KIDS' REVIEWS

WOW!

THE STARTING SCHOOL LIST,
KITTY BLACK, ILLUSTRATED BY
CATE JAMES,

AFFIRM KIDS, RRP \$20

With the countdown on to the first day of school, here's a kid-friendly list to help preppies tackle the new frontier with excitement and maybe a few tummy butterflies. It's all about finding new classrooms, meeting new classmates and sharing new experiences. Everyone's different - funny, kind, clever, sporty, bold and sunny. It's also OK to have various feelings, make mistakes, go slow and need space. The best bit is learning together and helping each other.

CASANDER DARKBLOOM AND
THE THREADS OF POWER,
P.A. STAFF,

WALKER, RRP \$20

In this gripping fantasy novel, a boy named Cas has no memory of his past and lives outside a curiosity shop where clocks spin backwards and books whisper words. Cas finds himself tangled in a world of trouble with the Master of All's minions, the Heretics. But with the help of friends Warrior, Fenix and Paw he finds strength and confidence to master his own powers to protect the Balance Lands. This book pulls you in to each chapter with its unique characters and world of magic.



YVETTE HARRIS, 9

BECOME A
SCOOP MEMBER

Fill in and mail back the token to the right to become a member of Scoop the Addy Newshound Young Readers Club. Members can enter weekly competitions and have their name printed the week of their birthday!



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Membership is open to children aged 0-14 years

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Email: _____

Date of Birth: _____

I want to sign up to become a Scoop Member ☐

I want to enter this week's competition ☐

A BOOK PACK

To enter, simply fill in and send back the token to the left, scan the QR code or head to geelongadvertiser.com.au/competitions and enter your details online.

Entries close: 10:30am, Wednesday, January 10, 2024

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Tributes

Deaths

JACKSON, Peter William
11.3.1954 - 29.12.2023

Loving father of Sarah
Jacobs, Daniel Jackson
and Elouise Sims.

Proud grandfather of
Benjamin, Lottie, Elsa,
Macy, Oliver, Felicie and
Harriet.

Forever in our hearts.

13 11 35 mytributes

JACKSON, Peter William
11 Mar 1954
29 Dec 2023

It is with deep sadness we
announce the passing of
Peter William Jackson,
1/3/1954 - 29/12/2023.
Beloved brother of Barry,
Don, John, Suzanne and
Leeann, brother-in-law of
Pauline, Pam, Penny and
Jan and his many nieces
and nephews. A man true
to himself until the end.
May his memory be a
blessing.

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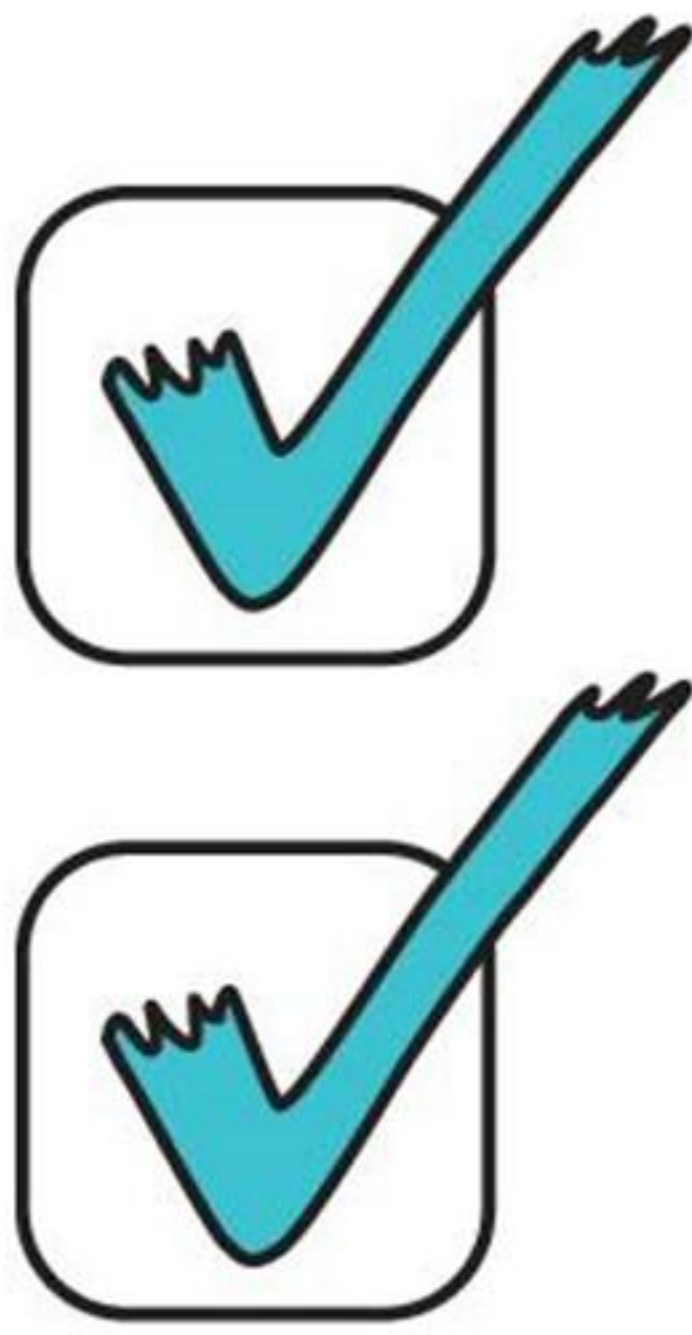
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Notice To Contributors

All sporting results should be submitted as soon as possible after competition for publication in the following edition of the Geelong Advertiser (Friday, Saturday and Sunday results to be submitted on Sunday).

Results should be emailed to geelongresults@mediality.com.au and should be received no later than 4pm on day of play for publication next day. Results submitted on Sunday should also be received no later than 4pm. Late results will not be published.

BASKETBALL

NBA

(home team in CAPS)
PHILADELPHIA 76ERS 110 Chicago Bulls 97;
MEMPHIS GRIZZLIES 106 San Antonio Spurs 98;
NEW ORLEANS PELICANS 112 Brooklyn Nets 85;
OKLAHOMA CITY THUNDER 127 Boston Celtics 123;
GOLDEN STATE WARRIORS 121 Orlando Magic 115;
Charlotte Hornets 111 Sacramento Kings 104

Eastern Conference				
Atlantic division				
	W	L	PCT	GB
Boston Celtics	26	7	0.788	-
Philadelphia 76ers	23	10	0.697	3
New York Knicks	18	15	0.545	8
Brooklyn Nets	15	19	0.441	11.5
Toronto Raptors	13	20	0.394	13

Central division				
	W	L	PCT	GB
Milwaukee Bucks	24	9	0.727	-
Indiana Pacers	18	14	0.563	5.5
Cleveland Cavaliers	18	15	0.545	6
Chicago Bulls	15	20	0.429	10
Detroit Pistons	3	30	0.091	21

Southeast division				
	W	L	PCT	GB
Miami Heat	19	14	0.576	-
Orlando Magic	19	14	0.576	0
Atlanta Hawks	13	19	0.406	5.5
Charlotte Hornets	8	24	0.25	10.5
Washington Wizards	6	26	0.188	12.5

Western Conference				
Northwest division				
	W	L	PCT	GB
Minnesota Timberwolves	24	8	0.75	-
Oklahoma City Thunder	23	9	0.719	1
Denver Nuggets	24	11	0.686	1.5
Utah Jazz	15	19	0.441	10
Portland Trail Blazers	9	23	0.281	15

Pacific division				
	W	L	PCT	GB
LA Clippers	20	12	0.625	-
Sacramento Kings	19	13	0.594	1
Phoenix Suns	18	15	0.545	2.5
Los Angeles Lakers	17	17	0.5	4
Golden State Warriors	16	17	0.485	4.5

Southwest division				
	W	L	PCT	GB
New Orleans Pelicans	20	14	0.588	-
Dallas Mavericks	19	15	0.559	1
Houston Rockets	16	15	0.516	2.5
Memphis Grizzlies	11	22	0.333	8.5
San Antonio Spurs	5	28	0.152	14.5

CRICKET

THIRD WOMEN'S ODI

India v Australia at Wankhede Stadium

AUSTRALIA Innings

P LITCHFIELD c Kaur b Sharma 119 (125)

A HEALY b Vastrakar 82 (85)

E PERRY lbw b Kaur 16 (9)

B MOONEY lbw b Patel 3 (10)

T MCGRATH lbw b Patel 0 (1)

A GARDNER b Patel 30 (27)

A SUTHERLAND c Kaur b Kaur 23 (21)

G WARHAM not out 11 (8)

A KING not out 26 (14)

Extras (1lb 20w) 28

Seven wickets for 338

Fall: 189 (A Healy), 209 (E Perry), 216 (B Mooney), 216 (T McGrath), 256 (P Uthfield), 295 (A Gardner), 299 (A Gardner)

Bowling: R Singh 7-0-52-0, P Vastrakar 10-0-68-1, S Patel 10-0-57-3, M Kashyap 3-0-30-0, D Sharma 10-0-53-1, A Kaur 10-0-70-2. Overs: 50

INDIA Innings

Y BHATIA b Schutt 6 (14)

S MANOHANA c Garth b Schutt 29 (29)

R GHOSH b Wareham 19 (29)

H KAJUR c Mooney b Wareham 3 (10)

H RODRIGUES c King b Gardner 25 (27)

D SHARMA not out 25 (39)

A KAJUR c Litchfield b King 3 (8)

P VASTRAKAR b King 14 (14)

S PATEL c McGrath b Sutherland 2 (10)

R SINGH c Healy b Sutherland 0 (1)

M KASHYAP c Mooney b Wareham 8 (15)

Extras (1lb 13w) 14

Total 148

Fall: 32 (Y Bhatia), 43 (S Manohana), 57 (H Kaur), 72 (R Ghosh), 98 (J Rodriguez), 102 (A Kaur), 128 (P Vastrakar), 135 (S Patel), 135 (R Singh), 148 (M Kashyap)

Bowling: M Schutt 6-1-23-2, K Garth 5-0-33-0, G Wareham 6-4-0-23-3, A Gardner 7-0-38-1, A King 5-0-21-2, A Sutherland 3-0-9-2. Overs: 32.4

Result: Australia won by 150 runs

BBL

Melbourne Stars v Melbourne Renegades

Match 23 at the MCG, Tuesday

MELBOURNE RENEGADES Innings

Q de KOCK c Webster b Maxwell 23 (16)

JCOX c Merlo b Wism 9 (6)

JFRASER-MCGURK c Maxwell b Webster 14 (19)

S MARSH b Lawrence 4 (7)

M HARVEY c Maxwell b Steketee 18 (16)

JWELLS lbw b Lawrence 9 (9)

W SUTHERLAND c Webster b Patis 4 (4)

T ROGERS not out 10 (6)

K RICHARDSON not out 1 (1)

Extras (5lb) 5

Seven wickets for 97

Fall: 33 (J Cox), 45 (Q de Kock), 51 (S Marsh), 55 (J Fraser-McGurk), 74 (J Wells), 79 (W Sutherland), 93 (M Harvey)

Bowling: J Paris 2-0-26-1, M Steinis 1-0-12-0, I Wism 3-0-22-1, G Maxwell 3-0-8-1, M Steketee 2-0-12-1, D Lawrence 2-0-8-2, B Webster 1-0-4-1. Overs: 14

MELBOURNE STARS Innings

T ROGERS not out 42 (34)

D LAWRENCE c Cox b Rogers 7 (6)

B WEBSTER c Sutherland b Steketee 14 (18)

G MAXWELL not out 32 (15)

Extras (1lb 1w 1nb) 3

Two wickets for 98

Fall: 18 (D Lawrence), 53 (B Webster)

Bowling: T Rogers 3-0-21-1, P Stekie 3-0-22-1, J Wells 1-0-11-0, A Zampa 3-0-27-0, K Richardson 2-0-16-0. Overs: 12

Result: Melbourne Stars won by 8 wickets

Standings

M W L N/R NRR Pts

Bris Heat 6 4 0 2 194.1 10

Syd Stars 6 3 1 2 0.167 8

Melb Stars 7 4 3 0 -1.140 8

Pert Scorchers 4 3 0 1 1.707 7

Hob Hurricanes 5 2 3 0 -0.235 4

Adel Strikers 5 1 3 1 -0.278 3

Syd Thunder 6 1 4 1 -0.420 3

Melb Renegades 7 3 5 1 -0.505 3

Gold Coast 7 3 5 1 -0.505 3

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Scottish Premiership

St Mirren 0 Celtic 3 (Marca 2, O'Reilly 7, Taylor 61); Rangers 3 (McCausland 42, Sima 46, Cantwell 62) Kilmarnock 1 (Armstrong 58 pen); Ross County 0 Aberdeen 3 (McGrath 25, 31, 51, 56, 61); Livingston 1 (Shinnie 75 pen) Hearts 2 (Vargas 54, Shankland 65); Motherwell 2 (Bair 36, Mugabi 65) Hibernian 2 (Nolan 29, 90+2)

Standings

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Celtic	22	17	3	2	53	15	54
Rangers	20	15	1	4	41	11	46
Hearts	21	11	3	7	24	18	36
Kilmarnock	22	8	7	7	24	23	31
St Mirren	22	8	5	9	24	28	29
Hibernian	20	6	7	7	26	29	25
Dundee	18	5	7	6	22	28	22
Aberdeen	18	6	4	8	22	29	22
Motherwell	21	4	8	9	25	34	20
St Johnstone	20	4	7	9	13	27	19
Ross County	19	4	6	9	17	29	15
Livingston	21	2	6	13	12	32	12

Spanish First Division

Valencia 3 (Yarochuk 4, Garcia Vaya 27 pen, 57 pen) Villarreal 1 (Moreno 73); Real Sociedad 1 (Zubimendi 90+7) Alaves 1 (Roa 76 pen); Rayo Vallecano 2 (Camello 46, 47) Getafe 0

Standings

Real Madrid	18	14	3	1	39	11	45
Girona	18	14	3	1	42	21	45
Atletico Madrid	18	12	2	4	36	19	38
Barcelona	18	11	5	2	34	21	38
Athletic Bilbao	18	10	5	3	34	19	35
Real Sociedad	19	8	3	30	19	32	
Real Betis	18	6	10	2	20	28	
Getafe	19	6	8	5	24	25	26
Valencia	19	7	5	7	22	23	26
Las Palmas	18	7	4	7	15	25	25
Rayo Vallecano	19	5	8	6	18	24	23
Osasuna	18	5	4	9	21	29	19
Villarreal	19	5	4	10	27	38	19
Malorca	18	3	9	6	17	22	18
Alaves	19	4	5	10	15	25	17
Sevilla	18	3	7	8	23	25	16
Cadiz	18	2	9	7	14	24	15
Celta	18	2	7	9	18	28	13
Granada	18	1	5	12	20	40	8
Almeria	18	0	5	13	19	42	5

Coppa Italia

Round of 16

AC Milan 4 (Jovic 30, 43, Trapattoni 51, Leao 90+2) Cagliari 1 (Dastello Azzi 88)

AC Milan 4 (Jovic 30, 43, Trapattoni 51, Leao 90+2) Cagliari 1 (Dastello Azzi 88)

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AC Milan 4 (Jovic 30, 43, Trapattoni 51, Leao 90+2) Cagliari 1 (Dastello Azzi 88)

AC Milan 4 (Jovic

YARRA VALLEY

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MULTIPLES DAILY DOUBLE 6 & 8 | EARLY QUADDIE 1, 2, 3, 4 | TREBLE 6, 7, 8 | QUADDIE 5, 6, 7, 8 | BIG6 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 | TAB FIXED ODDS ALL RACES

	BRAD WATERS	STEPHEN RODGERS	DON HARLEY
1	3 JUST BOLTS 6 Above the Frostline 4 Rank'n'File 10 Our Silver Linings	3 JUST BOLTS 5 Sakasa 4 Rank'n'File 10 Our Silver Linings	4 RANK'N'FILE 11 Halvar 10 Our Silver Linings 3 Just Bolts
2	1 FLYING KNEE 3 Jessup 4 Ortega 8 Thalassa	3 JESSUP 1 Flying Knee 4 Ortega 2 Foxmania	4 ORTEGA 3 Jessup 1 Flying Knee 2 Foxmania
3	1 BRIER 10 Miss Winslet 13 Turn Up The Music 3 Lolly Money	10 MISS WINSLET 3 Lolly Money 14 Nicoise Girl 1 Brier	1 BRIER 13 Turn Up The Music 10 Miss Winslet 5 Skilful Artist
4	8 OUR BONNIO MISS 6 Mariner's Dream 5 Airspace 3 Mitchell's Falls	6 MARINER'S DREAM 2 Kneith 8 Our Bonnio Miss 5 Airspace	6 MARINER'S DREAM 5 Airspace 1 Anthurium 8 Our Bonnio Miss
5	10 BOLSHOI PRINCESS 8 Vardachie 9 Amberanna 2 Lotaroc	10 BOLSHOI PRINCESS 3 Not A Problem 1 Inordinate 9 Amberanna	1 INORDINATE 9 Amberanna 5 Tosen Glory 4 The Rooster
6	10 NEVADA SHOWGIRL 9 Reparter 3 Magnace 8 Karatemiss	5 CRYPTIC CLUE 10 Nevada Showgirl 2 Fiftysevenyears 3 Magnace	2 FIFTYSEVENYEARS 10 Nevada Showgirl 8 Karatemiss 3 Magnace
7	1 MIDNIGHT DEVIL 7 Hybrid Moments 9 Albanian Thunder 3 Citealeon	1 MIDNIGHT DEVIL 7 Hybrid Moments 9 Albanian Thunder 4 Flying Finch	1 MIDNIGHT DEVIL 5 Viduka 2 Boo's Reward 7 Hybrid Moments
8	2 YONGTAI 12 Albanian Star 14 Lima Spice 1 Volpe Risorsa	2 YONGTAI 3 Cool Heart 12 Albanian Star 14 Lima Spice	8 SURPRISE VALLEY 3 Cool Heart 7 Queen Of Tuscany 2 Yongtai

1	1.30	HIRSCH HILL ESTATE PLATE				1009m
		\$37,500 3yo Maiden SW. Apprentices can claim.				EQ1
FORM	HORSE (BARRIER)	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WGT	RTG	ODDS
1	BOYFRIEND MATERIAL (8)	Codin Scott	Ms C Hefel (a)	58	69	26.00
2	IFI WAS YOU (7)	Mark & Levi Kavanagh	J Childs	58	81	12.00
3	52J JUST BOLTS (2)	Jamie Edwards	J Noonan	58	100	8.50
4	RANK'N'FILE (11)	Ben, Will & JD Hayes	M Dee	58	78	*2.40
5	5 SAKASA (4)	Clayton Douglas	Ms T Bull (a)	58	93	11.00
6	6 ABOVE THE FROSTLINE (6)	Marcus Fahler	B Mc Dougall	56	78	41.00
7	ARCTIC GIRL (3)	R Griffiths & M De Kock	J Bowditch	56	77	5.00
8	FAIRY MISS (10)	Daniel Williams	B Higgins	56	72	14.00
9	9s LUMINOUS WATERS (1)	J F Moloney	T Nugent	56	81	6.50
10	4s OUR SILVER LININGS (NZ) (5)	M M Laurie	D Stackhouse	56	99	8.00
		EMERGENCY				
11	20 HALVAR (9)	R Griffiths & M De Kock	J McNeil	58	96	8.00

Gear Changes: (1) Boyfriend Material blinkers on first time, pre-race ear muffs on first time, gelded; (3) Just Bolts tongue-tie on first time; (4) Rank'n'file gelded, lugging bit on first time, tongue-tie on first time; (5) Sakasa blinkers on first time; (8) Fairy Miss cross-over noseband on first time, pre-race ear muffs on first time, tongue-tie on first time; (11) Halvar ear muffs on first time

NOTE: Official start times correct at time of printing.

The betting odds quoted in this form guide are an assessor's estimate of the odds which will prevail on the date of the particular racing event and are not necessarily the odds that may be offered by a licensed bookmaker. The Herald Sun takes all care in compiling TAB details, but cannot accept responsibility for any errors. Readers are urged to check TAB information with the official lists before placing their bets.

6 BET365 TOP TOTES

4.00 1514m

TRELOAR (Luke Oliver) 5G By Real Impact (JPN) - Nubian (10:2-1-2). Slowly away when 4 len 7th of 7 (5) \$20.00 56.0 Port Louis 1200m Dunfield (8m70) Good(4) Nov 18. Gave good sight 2 len, 1-3/4 len 3rd of 8 (3) \$10.00 59.0 Estarpar 165m Terang (8m64) Soft(5) Dec 10. Freshened. Turned in improved performance at Terang last outing. Drawn off the track in the mix.

FIFTYSEVENYEARS (Liam Howley) 4G By Street Boss (USA) - Belle Chantree (NZ) (2:10-3). First up finishing 1st, 2-1/4 len 3rd of 10 (9) \$20.00 57.0 Le Ferrari 1400m Palerham Synthetic 2yo (8m58) Synthetic May 29. Raced without cover when hnd nk 3rd of 10 (9) \$5.00 57.0 Nystrom 154m Yarra Glen (8m58) Good(4) Dec 22. Made the running and kept on to just miss in similar grade here last outing. Fitter. Strong darts.

MAGNACE (D T O'Brien) 4G By Almazan (FR) - Asertwobossion (61-0-0). First up finished 5-1/4 len 10th of 16 (2) \$15.00 54.0 Albanian Star 1200m Remington 3yo Open Hcp Good(4) Jul 15. First up finished 2-1/2 len 4th of 12 (2) \$5.50 58.0 Fire Go Too 1200m Sandown Lakeside (8m64) Soft(5) Aug 6. Resuming. Comes to hand quickly. Decent alley. Back to country level. Each way.

PAINT ME RED (Brett Scott) 7G By Battle Paint (USA) - Creme Glace (45:5-7-6). Grounded near 1200m. Overcame early stages. Inconvenienced near 3 len 5th of 9 (5) \$11.00 55.0 Solbrook Star 100m Cranbourne 3yo (8m64) Good(3) Dec 22. Ran home respectfully at Cranbourne last time out. Each way.

CRYPTIC CLUE (Matthew Brown) 4G By All Too Hard - Very Puzzling (61-0-0). Struck interference near 50m when 4-1/4 len 10th of 11 (2) \$26.00 61.5 Ana Electra 1423m Sale 3yo (8m58) Good(3) Oct 11. Fair effort in 5 len 12th of 14 (9) \$10.00 58.5 Fire Of Etna 1100m Seymour 3yo Hcp (64) Good(4) Dec 21. Went to line only fairly this level at Seymour last start. Not fancied.

DELTA SKY Scratched.

ALBANIAN ICON (P Bourke) 4M By Hider - Brown Bombshell (11-1-0). Tried hard when 2 len 2nd of 11 (1) \$5.50 59.0 Greta Moon 1600m Moe 3yo (8m68) Good(4) Dec 8. Eased near 200m when 6 len 7th of 11 (10) \$5.00 59.0 Firestone Spritz 1850m Terang 3yo (8m68) Good(3) Dec 19. Drawn to offset. Not out of this.

KARATEMISS (M J Ellerton) 5M By Scissor Kick - Total Discretion (29:3-1-4). Held up near 400m when 1 len 4th of 9 (4) \$8.00 59.0 Tasaro 154m Kyneton 3yo (8m68) Good(4) Dec 14. Slowly away when 1 len 6th of 10 (4) \$11.00 59.0 Nystrom 154m Yarra Glen (8m58) Good(4) Dec 22. Wasn't all that far away here last outing. Not likely.

REPARTER (Jason Evans) 6M By Press Statement - Hot Streak (16:2-3-2). Began awkwardly when 2-1/4 len 7th of 10 (2) \$5.50 52.0 Cydonia Sally 1600m Moe 3yo (8m64) Soft(7) Sep 12. Kept trying 4-1/2 len 5th of 10 (10) \$5.50 59.0 Orlene 1600m Palerham Synthetic 3yo (8m68) Synthetic Oct 4. Strips fitter for 1-3/4 len 4th of 7 (4) link Daddy 100m Terang 2yo (Barrier Trial) Good(4) Dec 14. First up. Drawn poorly. One of or exotics.

NEVADA SHOWGIRL (T & C McEvoy) 3F By Boulder City - Bay Harmony (4:10-0). Near. Hampered near 150m when 1-1/4 len 4th of 10 (8) \$21.00 56.0 Revealed 1454m Hynter 3yo Mdn Good(4) Nov 20. Positioned midfield when sht nk win of 9 (2) \$4.20 56.0 Nevada Showgirl 1454m Hynter 3yo Mdn Soft(5) Dec 14. Well placed from the perfect draw. Strong claims.

PORTOBELLO ROAD Scratched.

TORNOVA (M Parkhurst) 5G By Toronado (IRE) - Miss Pavlova (51:3-4-2). Fair effort in 2 len 6th of 8 (2) \$10.00 55.5 Akrotiri 1500m Mornington 3yo (8m64) Soft(7) Dec 13. Slowly away. Held up near 400m when 3 len 5th of 9 (5) \$11.00 55.0 Solbrook Star 100m Cranbourne 3yo (8m64) Good(3) Dec 22. Ran home respectfully at Cranbourne last time out. Each way.

MIDNIGHT DEVIL (E Jusufovic) 4G By Helber - New Summer Night (10:1-3-0). Began awkwardly when 4th 2nd of 11 (3) \$5.00 56.5 Dumpty Skip 1200m Moe 3yo Mdn Good(4) Dec 8. Scored 5-1/4 len win of 8 (5) \$21.00 56.5 Midlight Devil 1200m Cranbourne 4yo Mdn Good(3) Dec 22. Made all and careered away to an impressive win at Cranbourne last start. 3kg damer engaged. Take beating.

2		2.00		ROKWORX PLATE		1009m	
				\$37,500 4yo & up Maiden SW. Apprentices can claim.			
				EQZ			
1	252	FLYING KNEE (1) (b)	C W McDonald	C Newitt	59.5	91	5.50
2	9	FOXMANIA (2)	A & J Williams	B Higgins	59.5	64	5.50
3	s622	JESSUP (9) (b)	G M Begg	J Childs	59.5	87	3.20
4	s532	ORTEGA (5)	M C Kost	B Mc Dougall	59.5	100	+3.00
5	245	REDOUTE'S NIGHT (6)	Ms C Alderson	Scratched	59.5		
6	s252	SET FOR SUCCESS (4)	Benjamin Buckley	A Lynch	59.5	56	151.00
7	22536	JIPUSHI (7) (b)	Shea Eden	Scratched	57.5		
8	9	THALASSA (3)	M M Laurie	D Stackhouse	57.5	55	41.00
9		WAYHERE (8)	Bill Papacharoudakis	Ms C Hefel (a)	57.5	66	12.00

Gear Changes: (1) Flying Knee blinkers on first time; (2) Foxmania blinkers on first time; (3) Jessup blinkers on first time; (9) Wayhere barrier blanket on first time, cross-over noseband on first time, stallion chain off first time, tongue-tie on first time

3		2.30		BARRY PLANT YARRA GLEN PLATE			1209m	
				\$37,500 3yo & up Maiden SW. Apprentices can claim.			B61	EQ3
1	26	BRIER (8) (h)	E Jusufovic	Ms C Hefel (a)	59.5	100	+1.60	
2	2674	FIRESTORM BOY (5)	G Eurdell	Scratched	59.5			
3	4327	LOLLY MONEY (1)	John McArdie	J Mott	59.5	94	6.50	
4		PRIDE OF PARIAH (9)	Patrick Keane	A Lynch	59.5	64	15.00	
5	4	SKILFUL ARTIST (13)	Mark & Levi Kavanagh	T Nugent	58	85	19.00	
6	3320	FOSSETTA (2)	Matthew Brown	Ms D Keane (a2)	57.5	87	51.00	
7	252	GIANT'S REWARD (12)	M W & J Hawkes	J McNeil	57.5	95	9.00	
8	773	LIP DE LANE (1)	J W Price	Scratched	57.5			
9		KATERINI (11)	C J Waller	D Stackhouse	56	78	10.00	
10	4	MISS WINSLET (7)	L & T Costerm	L Riordan	56	73	13.00	
EMERGENCIES								
11	3039	GIULIANO (14)	Ben, Will & J Hayes		59.5	90	17.00	
12	8030	THREE JACKS (6)	S V Brown	S Brown Jnr	59.5	88	13.00	
13	6	TURN UP THE MUSIC (10)	Simon Zalta	W Price	58	90	7.50	
14		NICOISE GIRL (4)	C J Waller	J Childs	56	76	15.00	

Gear Changes: (1) Brier ear muffs on first time, pre-race ear muffs off first time; (4) Pride Of Pariah gelded; (5) Skilful Artist blinkers on first time; (9) Katerini lugging bit on first time, tongue-tie on first time; (11) Giuliano blinkers off first time, winkers on again; (14) Nicoise Girl lugging bit on first time

4		3.00	DE BORTOLI PLATE			1968m	
\$37,500 Maiden SW. Apprentices can claim.						B62	EQ4
1	46	ANTHURUM (6)	M C Kost	Ms J Beriman	59.5	87	11.00
2	44333	KNEITH (NZ) (3) (b)	Garvin Bodggood	J Bowditch	59.5	98	3.90
3	s6725	MITCHELLS FALLS (4)	Yolo Ota	Ms Y Ota	59.5	100	21.00
4	5259	TAHTIAN WARRIOR (NZ) (8)	Matthew Brown	B Higgins	59.5	97	23.00
5	053	ARTSPACE (NZ) (5)	T Burstein & N Young	J Childs	58	94	9.00
6	32232	MARINER'S DREAM (7) (b)	Annabel Neesham	J Mott	58	98	+2.30
7	2646	BACKLIT BEAUTY (9)	L Kerwood & L Yarnan	T Nugent	57.5	88	7.50
8	6065	OUR BONNIO MISS (1)	J F McInerney	J Fry	57.5	88	23.00
9	47603	THE PARTING GLASS (NZ) (2)	Raece Goodwin	J Noonan	57.5	85	8.50

Gear Changes: Nil

5	3.30	AIR FUSION HANDICAP				1968m	
\$35,000 3yo & up Benchmark SR. Apprentices can claim.						B63	Q1
1	16822	INORDINATE (5) (dnb)	Garvin Bodggood	J Hill	61	92	+4.00
2	21767	LOTAROC (NZ) (10) (w)	D M Noonan	C Rawiller	61	96	11.00
3	60273	NOT A PROBLEM (1) (wb)	Ms A Berritt	J Fry	61	96	5.00
4	24338	THE ROOSTER (2) (d)	M D Mooney	J Mott	60	94	8.50
5	8095	TOSEN GLORY (6) (w)	Ben, Will & J Hayes	B Mc Dougall	60	95	21.00
6	1720	TRADEWORX (11)	Daniel Kelly	Ms A Kelly	60	100	41.00
7	41447	KHAN'S TREASURE (NZ) (5)	S V Brown	L Cartwright (a3)	59.5	99	6.00
8	7523	VAD ARCHIE (NZ) (9)	Matthew Brown	B Higgins	59.5	97	16.00
9	0924	AMBERARNA (NZ) (7) (w)	Ms C Alderson	L Bates (a3)	59	96	5.00
10	70921	BOLSHOI PRINCESS (3) (w)	Liam Howley	J Maskiell	59	96	5.00

Gear Changes: Nil

BOOS REWARD (G W Egan) 5M By Reward For Effort - Thawabed (9:2-0-1). Batted away gamely 3-3/4 len, sht 1/2 3rd of 10 (3) \$2.00 61.0 Real Gun 1100m Benalla 3yo (8m58) Good(4) Oct 30. Laid in straight when 2-1/2 len 4th of 9 (9) \$9.00 61.0 Gold Mansia 1000m Yarra Glen 3yo (8m58) Good(3) Dec 22. Batted on fairly here last time out. Can play a role.

CITALEON (Simone Mame) 6G By Jimmy Creed (USA) - Leonora (18:2-2-1). Nept fighting when 2nd of 7 (1) \$5.00 59.0 Catalina Black Cat 100m Terang (8m64) Soft(6) Dec 10. Reasonable effort 6-1/4 len 8th of 9 (4) \$26.00 59.0 Shakti 1200m Cranbourne 3yo Hcp (64) Good(3) Dec 22. Just batted home in similar class at Cranbourne at latest. Awkwardly drawn. Cannot entertain.

FLYING FINCH (Reece Goodwin) 7G By Redette - Lim's Falcon (20:3-3-3). Inconvenienced near 500m. Inconvenienced near 400m. Choked near 200m when 1 len 9th of 9 (4) \$20.00 58.0 Moon And Back 955m Moonee Valley 3yo (8m64) Good(3) Dec 8. Tried hard when 1 len, 3/4 len 3rd of 7 (1) \$7.00 55.0 Scram 1000m Mornington 3yo Hcp (64) Good(4) Dec 28. On a quick back up. Turned in an improved performance at Mornington last time out. 3kg damer engaged. Nice gate. Among the dingers.

VIDUKA (Ryan Balfour) 8G By Stryker - Hdy Connection (34:4-8-4). Began awkwardly. Last Ground when 1-3/4 len, 1-3/4 len 3rd of 15 (2) \$18.00 59.5 Saheemetic 1100m Morphettville 4yo H&G (8m62) Good(4) Nov 2. Positioned midfield when 3-3/4 len 9th of 10 (1) \$16.00 57.0 My Ruby 1000m Morphettville Park Hcp (64) Good(4) Dec 2. Freshened. Far from degraded at Morphettville Parks last outing. Place hope.

FROSTICK (M A Bell) 5G By Frost (USA) - Magna And Black (19:2-2-3). On return from break finished 3len 4th of 9 (9) \$2.90 69.5 Street Swagger 1000m Woburnville Triforce Heavy(8) Dec 2. Broke poorly (3). Warning - barrier manners when 5 len 9th of 9 (5) \$11.00 60.5 Gold Mansia 1000m Yarra Glen 3yo (8m58) Good(3) Dec 22. No appeal.

HYBRID MOMENTS (Patrick Keane) 4M By Nicconi - Dream Of Glory (11-0-0). Eased near 200m when 3-1/4 len win of 11 (2) \$5.00 57.5 Hybrid Moments 975m Swan Hill 3yo Mdn Good(4) Nov 26. Freshened. Impressive win at Swan Hill on debut. 3kg damer engaged. Can play a role.

TOM THE STAR (Matthew Cumani) 7G By Puisse De Lune (IRE) - French Fox (29:2-7-6). Eased near 800m when 4 len 11th of 11 (5) \$7.00 55.5 Francine 1000m Geelong 3yo (8m68) Good(3) Dec 2. Positioned midfield when 1-1/2 len, 1 len 3rd of 9 (1) \$10.00 58.0 Gold Mansia 1000m Yarra Glen 3yo (8m68) Good(3) Dec 22. Improved showing here last time out. 4kg damer engaged. Tough alley. Has darts.

ALBANIAN THUNDER (P Koumis) 4M By Magnus - Shri Pegasus (4:1-0-0). Began awkwardly. Raced three wide when 9-3/4 len 8th of 11 (7) \$26.00 57.5 Ninewh 1000m Warradale 2yo Mdn Plate Synthetic Jan 26. Pre race incident. Passed fit at barrier when 1/2 len of 10 (10) \$20.00 56.0 Albanian Thunder 1000m Yarra Glen 4yo Mdn Good(4) Dec 22. Grey on pace victory here first up. 1.5kg damer engaged. Fitter. Consider.

PUDACIOUS (S P Nichol) 4G By Rubick - Curvaceous (9:1-0-1). Slowly away when 3-1/2 len 6th of 7 (3) \$10.00 56.0 Queen Of The Mile 1000m Hawkesbury Midway (8m64) Good(3) Oct 8. Balanced up midfield when 4-1/2 len 6th of 10 (6) \$2.00 55.5 A Good Yarn 1000m Cdic 3yo Hcp (58) Good(3) Dec 16. Coming off an average run in similar grade. Colic at latest. Rank outsider.

OAKLEIGH (R J Bessark) 5G By Nicconi - Bluetrice (22:1-0-1). Slowly away when 7-3/4 len 7th of 11 (10) \$10.00 58.0 Nodding Grace 1200m Yarra Glen 3yo (8m64) Heavy(10) Dec 2. Batted away for 3-1/4 len 6th of 10 (2) \$81.00 54.0 Celestial Storm 1000m Flemington 3yo Hcp (C) Good(4) Dec 20. Ran home respectably at Flemington last start. Backmarker. Can thrive.

6		4.00		BET365 TOP TOTES				1514m		
				\$35,000 3yo & up Benchmark 58 Apprentices can claim.				DD1	B64	Q
1	61173	TRELOAR (11) (w)	Luke Oliver	J Mott	62	90	8.50			
2	6633	FIFTYSEVENYEARS (NZ) (7) (d)	Liam Howley	J Maskiell	61	95	+4.20			
3	s1045	MAGNACE (NZ) (4) (w)	D T O'Brien	J McNeil	61	100	+4.20			
4	56720	PAINT ME RED (NZ) (9) (da)	Brett Scott	Scratched	61					
5	81900	CRYPTIC CLUE (8) (w)	Matthew Brown	B Higgins	60	87	41.00			
6	s2681	DELTA SKY (12) (d)	S V Brown	Scratched	59					
7	8527	ALBANIAN ICON (3)	P Koumis	Ms T Childs (a15)	58.5	94	10.00			
8	33546	KARATEMISS (2)	M J Ellerton	J Bowditch	58.5	90	11.00			
9	91755	REPARTER (10) (w)	Jason Evans	L Cartwright (a3)	58.5	89	11.00			
10	96641	NEVADA SHOWGIRL (1) (w)	T & C McEvoy	Ms S Field (a3)	58	86	4.40			

Gear Changes: (2) Fiftysevenyears tongue-tie on again; (5) Cryptic Clue visors on first time; (7) Albanian Icon blinkers on again

Gear Changes: (2) Flittys even years tongue-tie on again; (5) Cryptic Clue visors on first time; (7) Albanian Icon blinkers on again									
7		4.30		UNITED PETROLEUM				1009m	
\$35,000 Benchmark 58. Apprentices can claim.									
							BGs	Qs	
1	s2221	MIDNIGHT DEVIL (7) (n)	E Jusufovic	L Cartwright (a3)	61.5	90	+1.85		
2	9634	BOO'S REWARD (8) (dw)	G W Egan	D Stackhouse	61	92	10.00		
3	05728	CITALEON (10) (w)	Simone Mame	Ms J Beriman	61	99	23.00		
4	65293	FLYING FINCH (1) (dw)	Raece Goodwin	Ms J Kennedy (a2)	61	87	13.00		
5	87039	VIDUKA (4) (d)	Ryan Balfour	C Rawiller	61	100	6.50		
6	5549	FROSTICK (3) (dw)	M A Bell	R O'Sullivan	60.5	99	41.00		
7	1	HYBRID MOMENTS (5) (d)	Patrick Keane	Ms D Keane (a2)	60	93	4.60		
8	65703	TOM THE STAR (11) (d)	Matthew Cumani	Scratched	60				
9	s781	ALBANIAN THUNDER (9) (dk)	P Koumis	Ms T Childs (a15)	59	67	13.00		
10	10866	PUDACIOUS (6) (d)	S P Nicholls	Ms L Burke (a4)	59	81	26.00		
EMERGENCY									
11	05776	OAKLEIGH (2) (w)	R J Bezantlo	Ms C Hefel (a)	57.5	82	41.00		

Gear Changes: (5) Viduka blinkers off first time, tongue-tie on first time, visors on first time; (6) Frostick blinkers on first time, winkers off first time; (10) Pudacious tongue-tie on first time

8.500		BET365 PROTEST PROMISE			1209m		
		\$35,000,3yos & up F&M Benchmark \$8. Apprentices can claim			DD2	B66	Q
1	75366	VOLPE RISORSA (5) (dw)	Toby Lake	L Cartwright (a3)	63	100	7.50
2	31	YONGTAI (8)	Doree Lincoke & M J Jenkins	Ms L Burke (a4)	62	96	8.50
3	s1233	COOL HEART (7)	Don Mc Gill	D Stackhouse	61.5	100	5.00
4	s988	PAMPUNI (10)	G Maher & D Eustace	J Mott	61.5	99	11.00
5	3334	AND SHE WAS (2) (d)	K & K Keys	T Nugent	61	99	13.00
6	4781	CORONATION ALLY (4) (d)	Brett Scott	Scratched	61		
7	21375	QUEEN OF TUSCANY (13) (n)	R Griffiths & M De Kock	J Bowditch	61	96	13.00
8	15	SURPRISE VALLEY (1) (w)	G Waterhouse & A Gitt	J McNeill	61	96	*2.50
9	05139	APPLEBY (11)	G Burrell	L Bates (a3)	60.5	97	6.00
10	1995	IDEEL GIRL (12) (dw)	Beady Cross	Scratched	60.5		
EMERGENCIES							
11	72847	SOUTHERN FIRE (9) (d)	S V Brown	Scratched	60		
12	97531	ALBANIAN STAR (14) (d)	P Kourmis	Ms S Clarke (a)	60	93	23.00
13	13436	TIMBER PRINCESS (3) (da)	Daniel Kelly	B T Moore (a4)	59.5	96	11.00
14	63-00	1984 SPICE (3) (d-w)	Druckman & Thompson	L Miles	59	93	8.00

Mishani man has Straddy dream

Ben Dorries

Mishani man Mike Crooks is known for a racing empire of two-year-old gallopers, but the larrikin owner has revealed a bold new dream as the iconic Gold Coast Magic Millions 2YO Classic nears.

He wants to win Queensland's premier race, the Group 1 \$3m Stradbroke Handicap, before he "carks it".

While he would still covet the rich Magic Millions with his band of young horses with the "Mishani" moniker, Crooks has a fresh racing blueprint in his mind.

He said he was keen for Les Ross – a master of training juvenile horses – to continue training his large band of two-year-olds from Crooks' private training facility.

But he is on the lookout for another horseman to train other, older horses he intends to buy with the famous Stradbroke Handicap in mind.

For Crooks, who made his fortune building swimming pools and who famously plucked Ross out of his pub where he was a karaoke singer, it would be an exciting new venture.

"My aim now before I cark it is to win the Magic Millions or the Straddy," Crooks said.

"At the end of the day, I have to start considering the Stradbroke."

"I need to buy some new stock as when I have QTIS horses and they are ready to rock and roll, we have to go for that early two-year-old prizemoney."

"People might think we over-race two-year-olds, but they are in and out very quickly and they honestly have three days off a week."

"Obviously I have got to look at how we can improve things and I would love to have some Stradbroke horses."



Les Ross

Arabian Summer, ridden by Harry Coffey (inset) will go for glory at the Magic Millions carnival on the Gold Coast. Picture: Brett Holburn/Racing Photos via Getty Images



COFFEY'S BIG SHOT

From beach outing to \$3m Magic Summer tilt for Harry

Ben Dorries

Victorian jockey Harry Coffey quips that he has ridden at the Gold Coast Magic Millions carnival before – but only on Surfers Paradise beach during the iconic barrier draw event.

Group 1-winning jockey Coffey will ride on the mega-rich day on Saturday week for the first time, getting a sighter on the Gold Coast track when he rides there this Saturday.

Coffey will partner Tony and Calvin McEvoy-trained two-year-old filly Arabian Summer on both Saturdays.

Following the blueprint set by the McEvoy champion Sunlight in 2018, Arabian Summer will be deployed on the seven-day back-up into the \$3m 2YO Classic after racing

this Saturday in the Gold Pearl over 1200m for 2YO fillies.

Arabian Summer is already safely in the 2YO Classic field, number two in the ballot order after scoring the Ballarat 2YO Classic on December 9 where she beat last Saturday's impressive Godolphin Sydney winner Parkour by 3½ lengths.

Coffey, who has never won a race in Queensland where he has only ever had seven previous rides, can't wait to get involved.

"I went up there once and did a guest speaking function and did the Magic Millions beach race once, but I've never ridden at Magic Millions," Coffey said.

"Racing this Saturday not only means the horse gets to have a look at the track but it also gives me a look at the

track, so it will hold us both in good stead.

"I think this filly is bomb-proof and she can race well in any track conditions."

"You are always worried that two-year-old horses are going to go off the boil, but she has just really thrived and she loves doing her trackwork and loves racing."

"Parkour looks a nice horse, things probably didn't suit it at Ballarat like it suited ours, but we still won convincingly."

"I really do think Arabian Summer brings the right sort of form lines."

Coffey and his wife, Tayla, delivered their first child last year and their now seven-month-old boy Thomas has just celebrated his first Christmas.

The family has packed their

bags for the Gold Coast where the jockey will have a steely focus on winning the \$3m Classic with Arabian Summer.

He is also set to have other rides for the McEvoy on Magic Millions day, including filly Sunset Dreaming in the \$3m 3YO Guineas.

It is well known that Coffey lives with cystic fibrosis, having to defy the odds his entire career to prove he is capable of riding at the elite level.

In recent times, a new gene-modifying drug called Trikafta – which tricks Coffey's body into thinking it has a gene that he is missing – has changed the jockey's life for the better.

"It has made my quality of life so much better," Coffey said.

"My body doesn't have to work as hard and I don't have

to visit hospital regularly to maintain where I am at.

"It has just made everything easier."

"My riding has got better, I have got more energy to do things."

"The drug works by tricking my body into thinking I am not as bad as what I am."

"My body is working at a lot better efficiency and it is now doing things that it is supposed to do."

Arabian Summer, a \$220,000 buy as a yearling, races for a syndicate that includes her breeder, Sheikh Mohammed Bin Khalifa Al Maktoum.

The filly is currently on the fifth line of Gold Coast Magic Millions 2YO Classic betting at \$11.

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'Little fat boy' now fit and ready

Adam Sherry

Beautifully bred gelding Rakomelo has taken time to find peak fitness, but trainer Mick Attard says he is now spot on and ready to score his first win for the stable.

The former Godolphin gelding has had five starts for Attard since he was purchased on Inglis Digital in July last year starting with a 10th behind Jedibeel at Warwick Farm on October 2.

"He looks absolutely magnificent now. It's taken a few runs for him to look like a horse," Attard said.

"He was a little fat boy when he came into work after we

bought him but he looks like a racehorse now."

He has finished just behind the placegetters in his four starts since with two fourth placings and two fifths but was taking improvement from each run according to Attard.

He said a drop back to 1000m in the Class 2 Heat of the Rising Star at Muswellbrook on Thursday would suit.

At his last run at Goulburn, he was exposed too far from home when fourth behind Galactic Angel on December 15.

"At Goulburn last start, he got up on heels and Alysha popped him out to get away from it at the 600m and he just took off but it was too far from



Rakomelo is now at peak fitness.

home for him," he said. "Looking at his races in Melbourne, the more you hold him up, the better he gets to the line."

"Dropping him back to the 1000m, there should be more speed on and gives him a chance to get home."

The son of Lonhro is a full brother dual to Listed winner Athiri and a half-brother to multiple Group 2 and 3 winners Savatiano and Vilana.

Like them, he is quite at home on wet ground.

In the preceding race, Attard saddles up another online purchase, four-year-old gelding Jamrock, who is coming off an improved 2½-length fifth behind Djapana at Gosford last Thursday.

Prior to that, he was safely held when fifth at Gosford first up and then seventh at Kembla at his second run back from a spell but things didn't go right.

"Just forget about his first-up run, he blundered at the start and the 1200m was too short for him but he got home all right the last 80m or so," Attard said.

No miracle, but trainer bullish about Medinah

Adam Sherry

Mudgee trainer Mack Griffith isn't underestimating the task facing Medinah in the last race at Muswellbrook, but is drawing confidence from leading rider Aaron Bullock's assessment of the gelding.

The four-year-old son of Pariah was formally trained in Victoria where he placed runner-up in three of his seven starts.

At his first run for Griffith, he finished 1½ lengths behind Invasive Dreams in fifth place over 1200m at Mudgee on December 1 before finishing a

similar margin behind Erelle in second place over 1300m at Scone 18 days later.

"In his first time out for us, Aaron (Bullock) confirmed what we thought which is that he needs a bit of ground," Griffith said.

"When we bought him, most of his races had been over the shorter courses but the way he finished off we thought he might be able to get over a bit of a trip."

"He steps up to 1500m this week and Aaron sticks with him. Each time he has ridden him, he has come back with a great report."

Stars tee up for charity

Players from AFL clubs heading to The Sands to help in fight against prostate cancer

Matthew Forrest

Some of Australia's top golfers and best footballers are set to tee off in the name of charity on Thursday, when the two sports meet to raise money for prostate cancer.

The Tee It Up Podcast, along with Geelong forward Brad Close, will host the Tee It Up charity tournament at The Sands Golf Course in Torquay, with the event featuring a star-studded line up.

Cats players, including Tom Stewart, Gary Rohan, Tom Hawkins, Jack Bowes and



Geelong AFL player and keen golfer Brad Close.

Zach Tuohy, as well as Essendon players Darcy Parish, Will Setterfield and Sam Durham,

and former players Isaac Smith, Shaun Higgins and Dom Tyson, will play in the

tournament alongside rising golfing stars Jasper Stubbs, Ben Eccles, Toby Walker and Matias Sanchez.

Event organiser Kieran Nolan said it was an exciting event, with thousands of dollars in prizes to be won by entering teams.

"I think it's a good mix that we've got, the more of the general public that you can get into these sorts of things the better the day," he said.

"Calloway, the Sands, Big Dog Golf and True Linkswear have all donated plenty of gear, the winning team gets

about \$1000 worth of gear for each player.

"I've played a bit of golf with Brad (Close) and he's started his 'Be Close Golf' (Instagram) page, so I thought I'd ask if he wanted to be involved and he was keen - and there were plenty of guys down at Geelong that wanted to jump in as well.

"I think they play more golf than they train for footy."

All the money raised from entry fees, raffles and events throughout the day will be donated to the Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia,

with Nolan sharing a personal link to the cause.

"Through my day work, I work in the prostate cancer space so I know a lot of people in the medical side of things," he said.

"It's a charity that is great, especially with young men, so raising a bit of awareness to look out for yourself a bit more is really important.

"One in six Australian men will have prostate cancer diagnosed in their life, so we target that under-40 demographic to play in the golf day and to raise awareness about it."

Metro milestone for Geelong races

More than \$1.6m in prize-money and bonuses will be up for grabs when Geelong Racing Club hosts its first metropolitan meeting this Saturday.

Following an agreement with the Melbourne Racing Club, the winner of the two-year-old race, the \$225,000 Rex Gorell Geelong Diamond, will get a golden ticket and exemption into the Blue Diamond - the state's premier two-year-old race - at Caulfield on February 4.

GRC chief executive Luke Rayner said he was ecstatic an agreement had been reached in providing a pathway for Victorian two-year-olds to progress.

"(It) is amazing for our race day and adds significant profile to this specific race," Rayner said.

Meanwhile, the 1700m bet365 Coastal Classic will be the day's feature race, offering \$300,000 in prizemoney.

Off the track, a Piccadilly Makers Market will showcase plenty of local produce and products. There will also be a beach volleyball court and a special kids zone with a petting zoo, water park and carnival rides.

Attendees can catch free buses to the event from Portarlington, Drysdale, Ocean Grove, Barwon Heads and the Surf Coast towns of Torquay and Anglesea with their general admission purchase.

The day's program of activities culminates with DJ Tom



Some Sheila ridden by Jack Hill wins the Canadian Club Classic Maiden Plate at Geelong racecourse last month. The 158-year-old Geelong Racing Club is to hold its first Victorian metropolitan race meeting on Saturday. Picture: Racing Photos via Getty Images

Santa playing at the event after-party from 5pm to 7pm.

"When we say there is something for everyone we mean it and we cannot wait to showcase everything that

Geelong has to offer on Super Saturday," Rayner said.

"We have focused on creating a family friendly, casual day out where the kids can be entertained all day but there is

also something for the adults as well."

Meanwhile, \$400 community bundle ticket packages are available, providing 20 adult admission tickets with

all groups buying a package going into a draw to win a share in a \$40,000 cash prize pool.

Groups will also go in the draw to be allocated a horse in

a particular race on the day, with winners receiving \$20,000.

Tickets and bus schedules are available on the GRC's website.

Hockley having a ball but competitive drive still on show

Ben Cameron

He might hit the floor with purely social intentions, but once the game gets tight, decades of competitiveness inevitably rises to the top for basketball veteran and new Armstrong Creek resident Kane Hockley.

The 45-year-old former Warrnambool Seahawks player, who began his hoops career



Kane Hockley

tournament - held at Wurti Baier Stadium on February 3 and 4.

around the age of eight in Port Fairy, will bring that zeal to the Surfcoast Basketball Association's burgeoning Masters

Teams will be split into over 35, 35, 45 and 50s for the men and over 30, 40 and 50s for the women.

After a successful inaugural tournament in 2023, organisers are expecting even more teams and Hockley is thrilled to be back in action for year two.

A teammate of Surfcoast Chargers senior coach David Scott in local Monday night basketball, Hockley remains a

"boisterous" comrade on the court. And social hoops has become a fantastic social connector, after Hockley and his partner moved to Armstrong Creek last Easter, with the father of one suiting up for another Masters campaign.

"It was a really good tournament (last year), a lot of older blokes who just want to play for a bit of fun," Hockley said.

"The start of the game is so-

cial and a bit of fun, but when the score gets close, it starts to get serious.

"There's nothing you can do about it, I'm really bad at it, I can't control myself, I can't just lay down (laughs).

"It doesn't matter what age you are, you still get that winning mentality."

Hockley is also passing it forward as a coach, marshalling Port Fairy's under-18 represen-

tative team early last year.

"I've always been taught just to practice the fundamentals," he said of the best advice he has received in the sport.

"The game now is getting really flashy.

"If you get the fundamentals right, everything else falls into line."

More info on the Surfcoast Masters at admin@basketball-surfcoast.com.au

Osaka knocked out of Brisbane event

Returning star Naomi Osaka showed glimpses of her best but was knocked out of the Brisbane International in a big-serving clash by a fellow former world No.1 mounting her own comeback.

Former US Open and Wimbledon finalist Karolina Pliskova blasted past Osaka after a slow start to win 3-6-7-6 (7-4) 6-4 on Wednesday and reach the round of 16 after playing her first competitive match since September due to a wrist injury.

The victory keeps the Czech star's hopes of a Brisbane International three-peat

alive after she won the previous two editions of the tournament in 2019 and 2020.

Osaka only gave up four unforced errors in a clinical first-set performance before Pliskova upped the ante on her serve, winning 24 of 26 points on her first serve to force a tie-break, which she won before breaking Osaka early in the final set.

Pliskova, 31, gave an unusually passionate celebration after claiming the second-set tie-break before she continued to serve out the game with all of her trademark power and aggression.

Nadal delivers a demolition job

Martin Gabor

Former world No.1 Rafael Nadal has put the rest of the men's tour on notice with an emphatic 7-5 6-1 win over Dominic Thiem in his first singles match in almost a year.

The Spanish maestro has been sidelined by a chronic hip injury since last year's Australian Open, but you wouldn't have known after he blasted the Austrian off the court at the Brisbane International.

The 37-year-old set the tone with a trademark forehand winner to take the opening point, with Nadal untroubled on serve as the pair traded holds before he claimed the all-



Spain's Rafael Nadal celebrates.

important break in the 12th game to snatch the first set.

It was a procession from there, with the 22-time grand slam winner breaking twice in the second set against the man he beat in consecutive French Open finals.

"Today is honestly an emotional and important day for me after probably one of the toughest years of my tennis career, without a doubt," Nadal said after the match.

"I had the chance to come back after a year and play in front of an amazing crowd and play, I think, at a very positive level."

"On the first day, it is something that makes us feel proud. Myself, all the team and family that have been there every single day during the past year."

"The first set was equal, with both of us serving well and more or less winning on serve."

"I was able to have that break at 6-5, so that makes the difference."

"Honestly, I know Dominic has gone through some hard times with injuries too, so I'm happy to see him on court and I wish him the very best for the

season." Some of Nadal's groundstrokes made it feel like he'd gone back in time to when he was simply unbeatable, which makes you wonder how good he can be once he gets more match practice under his belt.

Nadal had only just made his competitive return in the doubles a couple of days earlier after a horrific run of injuries, and he'll next face Aussie Jason Kubler on Thursday.

In other results in Brisbane, Rinky Hijikata eliminated fellow Aussie Thanasi Kokkinakis in straight sets, while two-time Australian Open winner Victoria Azarenka also booked her spot in the round of 16.

ULTIMATE TEST LOOMS

Australian relishing the chance to go up against one of the game's all-time greats

Callum Dick

Jason Kubler was fighting a fierce first round battle against Aslan Karatsev on Show Court 1 when the roar came from inside Pat Rafter Arena.

He and Karatsev were forced to briefly pause their second set as the crowd next door erupted with delight, signalling Rafael Nadal's victory over Dominic Thiem.

Both men immediately knew what it meant. The winner would be facing one of the greatest of all time in the next round.

Suddenly the stakes were even higher.

"I think we both definitely knew that Rafa had won and that we were (going to play) Rafa - it was very obvious who won," Kubler said ahead of his Thursday night meeting with the 22-time Grand Slam champion.

"We had to stop play a couple of times because of it, in a couple of big moments in our match because the crowd was cheering for Rafa."

Kubler would go on to lose the second set in a close tie-breaker, however his Russian opponent went down with what looked to be a serious knee injury and was forced to retire from the match.

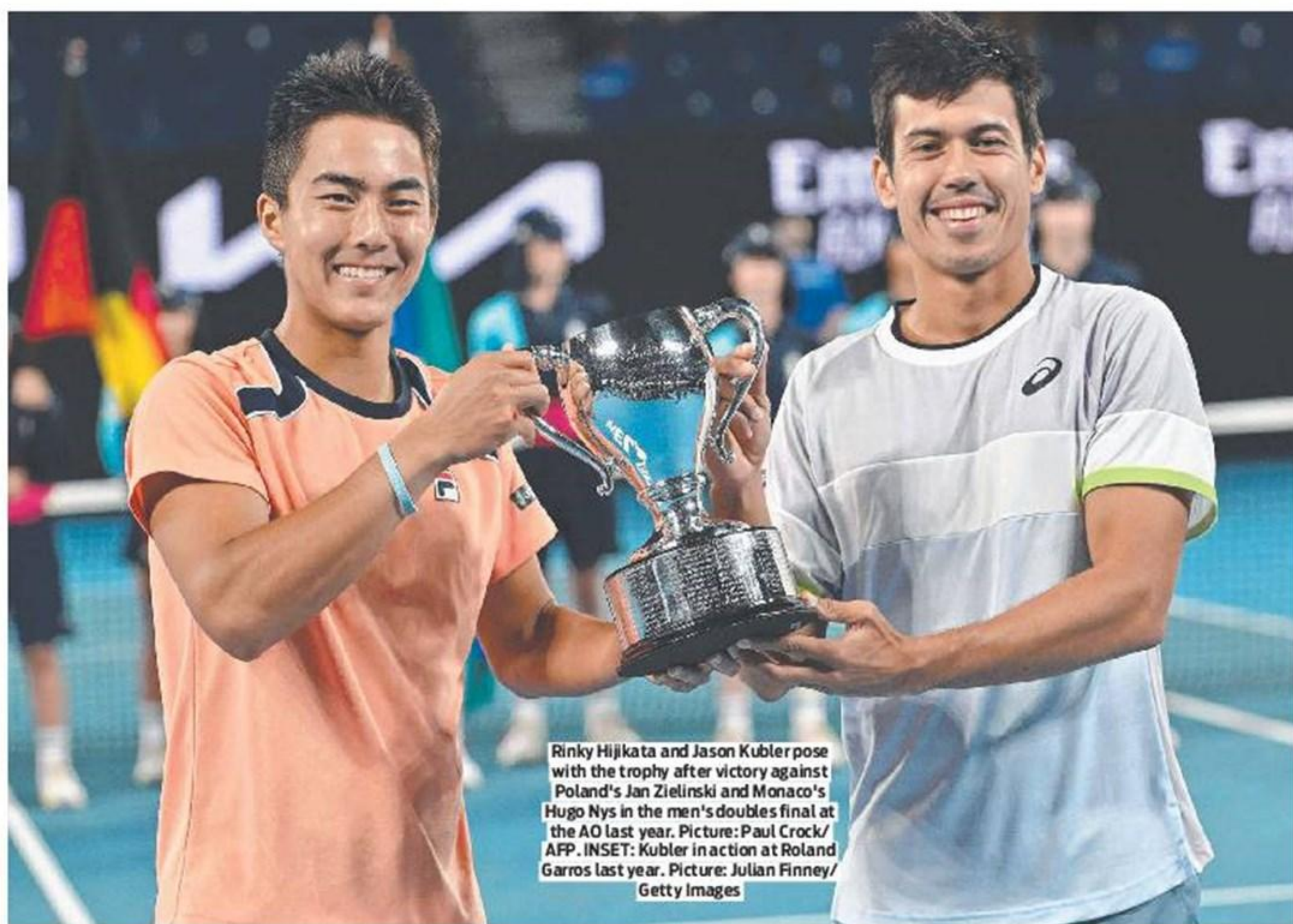
The stage was then set: Kubler versus Nadal. A Brisbane International second round clash set to divide the tennis diehards.

In Kubler they have the local hope, the Brisbane boy who trained on Pat Rafter Arena for more than a decade.

Then there is Nadal, the two-time Australian Open champion and arguably the most popular player in the sport's history, who could be playing Down Under for the final time this year.

Kubler heard the cheers. The "Rafa Rafa Rafa, Oi Oi Oi".

He will command serious home crowd support on Thursday night. But there will undoubtedly be pro-Nadal pockets within Pat Rafter Arena.



Rinky Hijikata and Jason Kubler pose with the trophy after victory against Poland's Jan Zielinski and Monaco's Hugo Nys in the men's doubles final at the AO last year. Picture: Paul Crock/AFP. INSET: Kubler in action at Roland Garros last year. Picture: Julian Finney/Getty Images

"To be honest if they cheer for him or me it's going to be special regardless," Kubler said.

"However the match or the crowd happens to be, the occasion is going to be special to me ... getting to play Rafa on my home court, so regardless of all the other outside stuff just that alone is special."

"I'm 30 now so any sort of big match against one of the legends of the sport is pretty cool."

"There's definitely going to be some nerves that's for sure, because of how great a player he is, but at the same time I honestly believe I have nothing

to lose. I can go out there and lose 6-1, 6-1 and not many people are going to bat an eye about it."

"I'm just going to go out and enjoy it. I trained here for 10 years of my life so it's a pretty special moment to play one of the biggest names in our sport on this court."

"Hopefully lots of people can make the occasion even more special. I'm sure it's something I'll remember for the rest of my life."

On the comeback trail from a seventh serious knee injury, Kubler is taking it one match at a time as he prepares for the

Australian Open. There is perhaps no sterner fitness test in world tennis than against Nadal.

He enters with no expectations on his shoulders - and that's the way he likes it.

If there was ever a time to strike down one of the winningest players in tennis history, Thursday night in front of a sold out Pat Rafter Arena would be it.

"If I won the match it would definitely be the biggest occasion," Kubler said.

"I don't think it would be much bigger than that, beating one of the best players ever."



THRILLS GALORE IN RUN HOME

Ladder positions vital as BPCA finals series looms



Armstrong Creek batsman Chris Marsiglio is clean bowled by Anglesea bowler Darcy Elliott as the race for the finals heats up with six rounds remaining. Pictures: Mark Wilson

Matthew Forrest

With the BPCA set to resume this weekend, all eyes are on the remaining fixtures and ladder positions to see which teams can make a run at a premiership in 2024.

The Addy's local cricket experts have assessed the remaining six rounds of cricket to see which sides can make a late push at a finals berth.

ANGLESEA

Queenscliff (H), Barwon Heads (A), Jan Juc (H), Inverleigh (A), Ocean Grove (H), Barrabool (A)

The Roos are yet to lose a game this season, and are a great chance of winning their fifth straight premiership.

It seems unlikely Anglesea will face rival Jan Juc, with the round 11 match at home likely the last time these two teams play this season.

Three home games make the run home for Anglesea a bit easier, as will just two games against top four opponents, with the clash against Barrabool in the last round a great warm up for the finals.

BARRABOOL

Jan Juc (A), Ocean Grove (H), Queenscliff (A), Armstrong



From left: Clay Mulgrew; Ben Harcombe; Brett Venables and Sam Stone.

Creek (H), Barwon Heads (A), Anglesea (H)

Barrabool is still fighting for a top two spot, tied with Barwon Heads and just three points ahead of Armstrong Creek, the final three rounds will dictate where the premiership hopefuls finish.

Home games against Armstrong Creek in round 12 and Anglesea in round 14 certainly help. However, a trip to Barwon Heads could provide a tricky contest. Barrabool will need to beat Jan Juc, Ocean Grove and Queenscliff to be in a commanding position to hold onto a top two berth.

BARWON HEADS

Armstrong Creek (A), Anglesea (H), Inverleigh (H), Jan Juc

(A), Barrabool (H), Ocean Grove (A)

A tough run home for Barwon Heads, which is still hopeful of a top two spot in the run home.

Games against Armstrong Creek and Anglesea will make it tough sledding for the next month, but the following two games against Inverleigh and Jan Juc are must-wins if it wants to secure a top-two finish.

Getting a home game against Barrabool could be crucial, while a trip to Ocean Grove, which is still hunting for a finals spot, could be a tough final round.

ARMSTRONG CREEK

Barwon Heads (H), Queenscliff (A), Ocean Grove (H)

Barrabool (A), Jan Juc (H), Inverleigh (A)

The Titans will be aiming to hold onto their finals spot, with a nine-point buffer over the fifth-placed Ocean Grove.

The round 11 clash against Ocean Grove could swing finals calculations for both sides, with the next four games all tough for Armstrong Creek.

Finishing with matches against the seventh and eighth placed Jan Juc and Inverleigh may help the Titans hold onto a finals berth, but they will need to win both games.

OCEAN GROVE

Inverleigh (A), Barrabool (A), Armstrong Creek (A), Queenscliff (H), Anglesea (A), Barwon Heads (H)

Ocean Grove will need to put pressure on Armstrong Creek for the race to the top four, and can start with a trip to Inverleigh. It would have loved to have hosted the Titans in round 11, but will get home field advantage for games against Queenscliff and Barwon Heads, which could both be important games in the final three rounds.

An upset over Barrabool or Anglesea could give Ocean Grove the edge to making finals, if Armstrong Creek cannot replicate the upset victories.

QUEENSCLIFF

Anglesea (A), Armstrong Creek (H), Barrabool (H), Ocean Grove (A), Inverleigh (H), Jan Juc (A)

Queenscliff has a tough road to make finals, two wins behind Armstrong Creek and three games against top four opponents in the next three rounds. The home game against the Titans will be the most important for Queenscliff to secure. However, toppling Anglesea or Barrabool would also do them plenty of favours heading into the final rounds of the season.

If Queenscliff goes 0-3 over the next six weeks, the season will be over before the round 13 clash against Inverleigh.

JAN JUC

Barrabool (H), Inverleigh (A), Anglesea (A), Barwon Heads (H), Armstrong Creek (A), Queenscliff (H)

Can Jan Juc figure it out? The Sharks came from outside the top four in the final weeks of the season last year to sneak into the postseason, and made the grand final for the fourth-straight season.

Jan Juc is staring down the barrel of missing finals, currently 15 points out of the top four with a tough run home. It starts with a home game against Barrabool, and if the Sharks can't come away with a win hopes of another grand final appearance will be all but over.

INVERLEIGH

Ocean Grove (H), Jan Juc (H), Barwon Heads (A), Anglesea (H), Queenscliff (A), Armstrong Creek (H)

Plenty of home games in the run home will give it a chance of disrupting the applecart.

However, Inverleigh's season is not going to extend into finals this year. Winless after the first half of the season, it will be hoping to claim its first victory of the season, with its best chances coming against Ocean Grove and Jan Juc at home, or Queenscliff in round 13.

Geelong cricketers suspended over separate incidents

Ben Cameron

A Manifold Heights first-grade cricketer has been suspended for two matches for verbal abuse of a Bell Park opponent last month.

The player, who this publication has opted not to name,

was unable to reduce the severity of the penalty with an early plea before the Geelong Cricket Association's match review panel penalty because it was a second offence within a couple of rounds.

In the latest incident, on December 16, the player ab-

used a Bell Park opponent during the GCA3 match at Harold Hurst Reserve.

Meanwhile, a Manifold second-grade player was also suspended for two matches for abusing the Bell Park scorer who was taken to hospital after suffering a medical epi-

sode, also on December 16 at Hamlyn Park.

The club publicly apologised for its role in the incident, after which the scorer was taken to hospital.

"We would also like to extend our apology to the Bell Park Cricket Club and their

members," the club said.

It comes after several suspensions were issued following an incident between Manifold Heights and St Albans Breakwater in a GCA3 thirds game in early November at Harold Hurst Reserve.

A St Albans player was

banned for the remainder of the season and a Manifold cricketer copped a three-game suspension, after a fracas which prompted calls for police.

The league declined to comment on the most recent penalties.

Shield rookies' Windies warm up

Ed Bourke

Promising Sheffield Shield batters Jack Clayton and Teague Wyllie will have a chance to impress the Australian selectors in a three-day tour game against the West Indies next week.

Peter Handscomb, who does not have a BBL contract this season, will lead a Cricket Australia XI at Adelaide's Karen Rolton Oval from January 12 as the inexperienced West Indies side prepares for the two-Test series in Adelaide and Brisbane.



Teague Wyllie

The left-handed Clayton, one of Queensland's top Shield performers this season, and Western Australian young gun Wyllie are the two hottest batting prospects named in a 12-man squad that also includes young Warriors opener Jayden Goodwin and Tasmanian duo Tim Ward and Jake Doran.

Clayton posted a century and three 50s in the first half of the red-ball season, while Wyllie last summer became the youngest batter since Ricky Ponting to score a Shield century but has failed to reach the milestone in 16 first-class matches since.

National selection panel chair George Bailey said he wanted to mix domestic cricket's most consistent performers with some recent Shield debutants for the tour match.

Victorian left-arm orthodox bowler Doug Warren, who has played two first-class games, is the only spinner named in the side, while towering WA left-arm quick Liam Haskett and NSW seamer Jack Nisbet are also Shield debutants.

"CA XI matches provide an excellent opportunity for some of our up-and-coming players on the domestic scene to face international opposition as well as rewarding consistent performers," Bailey said.



Aussie skipper Pat Cummins celebrates the wicket of Pakistan's Sajid Khan with teammates during the first day of the third Test at the SCG. Picture: AFP

Pakistan stages rally

Rizwan, Salman dig in after Aussies dominate early

Mohammad Rizwan and Agha Salman counter-attacked to help Pakistan battle back from a rocky start on the opening day of the third Test against Australia in Sydney.

After being reduced to 96 for five soon after lunch, Rizwan and Salman took on the Australian bowling with a pulsating 94-run stand before Rizwan fell just before tea for 88.

At the interval, Pakistan was 199 for six with Salman on 36 and Sajid Khan seven. The tourists battled on to be 9/261.

Rizwan, who had been dropped for the first Test, blasted two sixes and 10 fours

off 103 balls before he fell to a legside trap set by Pat Cummins.

Rizwan top-edged a pull shot for Josh Hazlewood to take the catch at fine leg after posting the highest individual score by a Pakistan batsman of the series.

Cummins made the breakthrough as he has done often throughout the series, taking his third wicket of the innings.

Pakistan made a disastrous start after winning the toss, losing four wickets in the opening session and skipper Shan Masood shortly after lunch for 35.

It was a rousing morning

session for the Australians, who are looking to send off 37-year-old opening batsman David Warner as a winner in his home city in his 112th and final Test match.

Openers Abdullah Shafique and debutant Saim Ayub were dismissed inside the first two overs.

The out-of-form Shafique fell to the second ball of Mitchell Starc's opening over, needlessly playing a loose drive and nicking a catch to Steve Smith at second slip for a duck.

Ayub, brought in for Imam-ul-Haq to make his Test debut, only lasted two balls before he

fell to a Hazlewood out-swinger in the next over, snapped up behind by Alex Carey.

Pakistan lurched to four for two and for a time looked to be consolidating with Babar Azam playing three glorious cover drives to the ropes before he was out on first-hour drinks for 26.

Cummins appealed vociferously for lbw but was turned down by the umpire, only to seek a review and get the verdict he sought, leaving the tourists tottering at 39 for three.

Saud Shakeel copped a nasty blow on the collarbone from a Cummins lifter and in

the Australian skipper's next over he prodded a catch behind to Carey for five, leaving his side further in the mire at 47 for four. Masood had a big moment on 32 in the second

over after lunch when he was caught by Smith at second slip but it was ruled a no-ball from bowler Mitchell Marsh.

Marsh got the last laugh two overs later when Masood, on 35, again edged the medium-pacer to Smith in almost identical fashion to leave Pakistan at 96 for five. Australia clinched the three-match series with a tense 79-run win in the second Test in Melbourne over Christmas.

'Cool feeling': Aussie young gun's stellar comparison

Ed Bourke

Phoebe Litchfield says it's a "huge honour" to be compared to batting great Meg Lanning after her commanding century fired Australia to a 190-run win over India in the third ODI.

Australia secured a series whitewash in Mumbai after the 20-year-old combined with captain Alyssa Healy for a 189-run opening stand to set up a score of 7-338, with India bundled out for 148 in reply.

Litchfield was stranded for more than 30 minutes in the 90s as Australia at one stage lost 4-27, but she eventually got to her second ODI century and put the innings back on track

with Ash Gardner (30 off 27) to post 119 off 125 balls, including 16 fours and a six.

The left-hander's 260 runs at 86.66 had her crowned player of the series as she also became the youngest Australian to pass 50 six times in ODIs, achieving the feat 58 days ahead of a 20-year-old Lanning.

Litchfield said it was a "cool feeling" to earn comparisons to Lanning and Belinda Clark after so quickly becoming one of Australia's best players.

"I looked up to Meg, and recently had Belinda Clark work with our Thunder group, so to be mentioned with those names is a huge honour," she said.

"But I'm trying to take it each day at a time and not think too much into it and just keep scoring runs."

She said her prolonged time in the 90s had been "stressful" but held her nerve after losing a procession of teammates in Healy, Ellyse Perry, Beth Mooney and Tahlia McGrath as India fought back with the ball.

"I thought I was going to bring it up with 'Pez', that was the fairytale, but it took me a long time to get to the hundred and it was nerve-racking to say the least," Litchfield said.

"With the wickets falling around me, it was a bit stressful, but I just stayed really calm. I probably scored each run in

singles, just wanting to get there and make the most of that big partnership."

Australia was then at its most clinical with the ball in this series as Megan Schutt removed both Indian openers in her first spell before Georgia Wareham (3-23) and Alana King (2-21) combined to tear through the middle order.

The match also marked a return to form for Healy, who posted her first score above 50 in the format since her devastating 170 in the 2022 World Cup final in New Zealand.

The multi-format tour next moves east to Navi Mumbai for the three T20s beginning on Saturday.



Australia's Phoebe Litchfield. Picture: Getty Images



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Hisense

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654336 / 55J6KAL

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660237 / FF-43J63

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638905 / 43UR8050PSB

FALCON

HDR

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Configurable options are available. *Testing conducted by Apple in October 2020 using preproduction MacBook Air systems with Apple M1 chip and 8-core GPU, configured with 8GB of RAM and 512GB SSD. The Apple TV app movie playback test measures battery life by playing back 1080p HD content with display brightness set to eight clicks from bottom. Battery life varies by use and configuration; see apple.com/batteries for more information.

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Radeon

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8GB RAM
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S79067 / S8A190012AA5A

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CORE i5

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ASUS
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Ryzen

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*Battery life based on manufacturer testing and can vary significantly based on usage, network and feature configuration, signal strength, settings and other factors. Discounts apply to most recent previous ticketed/advertised price at the time of printing 21/12/2023. As we negotiate on price, products are likely to have sold below ticketed/advertised price in stores prior to the discount offer.

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100% ACTUAL DISPLAY

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662712

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50MP
TRIPLE RAR CAMERA

5050mAh
ADAPTIVE BATTERY

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639109

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iPhone 14 PRO MAX*

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iPhone 13*

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iPhone 13 PRO*

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iPhone 12*

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iPhone 12 PRO MAX*

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dyson

Dyson V8 Origin
6722387 / 447949-01

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Cordless Vacuum With Self Cleaning Brushroll
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Shark.

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LG

Hay Group
lg
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626178 / RF500QX1

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ENERGY RATING

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630382 / FCD503F18

THIS IS NUTS!

\$888 EA

ENERGY RATING

LG

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TICKET \$3999
\$3499 EA
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ENERGY RATING

Hisense

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922869 / HRF205

TICKET \$544
\$499

ENERGY RATING

LG

315 Litre Top Mount Fridge
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580180 / GT-3S

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TICKET \$944
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ENERGY RATING

CHI Q

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640340 / CBM396B3

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TICKET \$899
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926201 / HRFM503S

\$100 OFF^A

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ENERGY RATING

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beko

7.5KG Front Load Washer
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\$599
\$100 OFF^A

ENERGY RATING

Hisense

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926196 / HMF8514E

\$100 OFF^A

TICKET \$749
\$649
\$100 OFF^A

ENERGY RATING

beko

9KG Auto Dose Front Load Washer
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988993 / BFL902ADW

\$51 OFF^A

TICKET \$849
\$798

ENERGY RATING

FISHER & PAYKEL

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651498 / WH1000P4

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\$1149
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HDR

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SLIM
PS5!**



PS5 PlayStation 5
Slim Console
670022 / 1000039222

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666248 Ends 24/01/2024

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E8 Automatic Coffee
Machine 511042 / 15372

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5.3

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Forerunner
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TICKET \$599

\$348

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CHIQ

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OFF^A**

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Load Washer
531944 / WTL798

TICKET \$599

\$499

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